Mr. Richard Grigonis
510A Portsmouth Drive
Lakewood, NJ 08701
Sent VIA www.MailALetter.com

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Mr. Gary Mangiacopra
7 Arlmont Street
Milford, CT 06461

06461+2503

Richard Grigonis
510A Portsmouth Drive
Lakewood, NJ 08701
732-961-2288

May 19, 2010

Hello Gary,

Sorry I haven't sent you a letter sooner. I am working through tons of data from the American Philosophical Society, Royal Geographical Society, Heuvelmans correspondence from Switzerland and scanned files from my visit to John Green (Mr. Sasquatch) in Harrison Hot Springs British Columbia earlier this month.

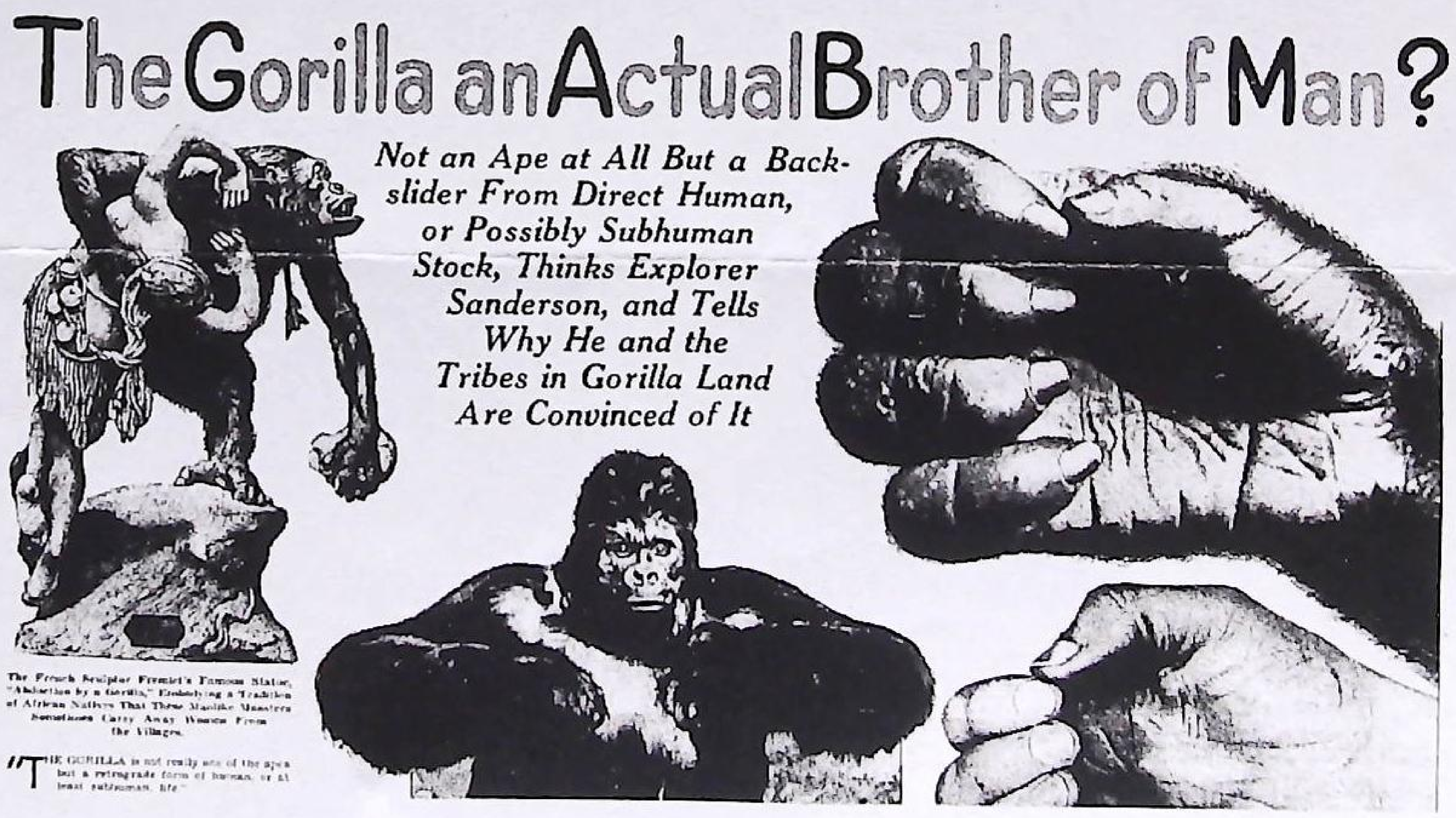
As it turns out, Sterling E. Lanier was Ivan's editor at Chilton (publisher of the Abominable Snowman book), not his agent. Would love to get a quote about Ivan needing money from Chilton….

Ivan's British literary agent was an old Cambridge chum, Innes Rose, who basically took over the John Farquharson & Co. agency. His wife Pauline was also a literary agent for many years.

Would love to pin down whether it was William Beebee (or whoever) who refused to shake Ivan's hand.

Here's something amusing….(will ultimately send you more stuff as I finally finish this thing – it looks like it probably won't be ready until the end of June).

Cleveland Plain Dealer, March 27, 1938….(from the American Weekly in Britain).



The Gorilla an Actual Brother of Man?

Not an Ape at All But a Backslider From Direct Human, or Possibly Subhuman Stock, Thinks Explorer Sanderson, and Tells Why He and the Tribes in Gorilla Land Are Convinced of It

The French Sculptor Fremiet's Famous Statue, "Abduction by a Gorilla," Embodying a Tradition of African Natives That These Manlike Monsters Sometimes Carry Away Women From the Villages.

"THE GORILLA is not really one of the apes but a retrograde form of human, or at least subhuman, life."

1 June 2010
7 Arlmont Street
Milford, Connecticut
0 4 1
203-874-2275

Richard Grigonis
510A Portsmouth Drive
Lakewood, New Jersey
08701

Dear Richard:-

As usual, I begin this letter with a plea of please forgive me of being so delayed in sending out this package from my files on Ivan Sanderson.

I wanted to reply to your last letter to me of May 19th sooner, but I got behind due to the more and more erratic work schedule that I have due to the two jobs that I hold down -- surviving and consider myself luckly that I do have them!

I took this holiday weekend to run off more xerox copies of my files, please note that I am simply taking hatever file is at hand and is in front of each other (this is my oddball fling system - but it works) and copied it completely.

Importantly, I copied the Michael Swords file that I had gotten from him on what he had sent me several years ago regarding these odds and ends that was in a ufo archives that he had access to. As you can see, they were from the circa 1957-1959 period, and cover his time that he was traveling across the country working on his book, the CONTINENT WE LIVE ON.

There were also several photographs that was also in the file showing him, his wife, a few friends, and his animal zoo he had at that time.

Importantly, I found several slides that I had made some 15 years ago when I was working in an 1-hour film lab. What had happened was that in 19-seventy six I had attended an INFO convention but my 35 mm camera broken down on me. So I used my mother's 123 camera instead. It wasn't suitable for the job, and my color negatives were very underexposed (I still have them luckly!) but I remember I was using them as a test pierce of using this C-41 dupe film good for making slides from color negatives. I mounted them and forgot about them.

What is important is that they showed Bob Jones, former pres. of SITU and VESTIGA, as you never had seen a photo of him and wanted to. I have not had a chance to look over my other 35 mm slides that I had taken at the 1970s INFO FESTS to see if there are any other slides of Jones to get a better visual of him.

Also, while going through these test pieces, I found several others extras that may be of help to your book.

I had taken black and white negatives at the 1983 1st ISC conference in which Heuvelmans had attended and showed Roy Mackal who had also known Ivan. Mackal has an attic (!!) full of his files, and there has to be somewhere a file of Ivan's correspondence with him.

The French Sculptor Fremiet's Famous Statue, "Abduction by a Gorilla," Embodying a Tradition of African Natives That These Manlike Monsters Sometimes Carry Away Women From the Villages.

"THE GORILLA is not really one of the apes but a retrograde form of human, or at least subhuman, life."

This startling opinion, contrary to accepted scientific belief, is set forth by no less an authority that Ivan T. Sanderson, British zoologist, naturalist, Fellow of the Linnean Society and of the Royal Geographic Society. More important than his scientific honors, in this particular question, is the fact that he is also one of those rare individuals, an authority on gorillas, having actually studied them in their native haunts.

If Sanderson's theory survives the attacks it must face, it will mean that there is no "missing link" between modern man in his airplane and the hairy giant of the anthropoids, for they are both to be considered as humans or to have once been subhumans together. The missing link then would be a fossil linking the ancestors of the chimpanzee and other unquestioned apes on one side, with the ancestors of modern man and the gorilla on the other.

At a time so remote that perhaps it will never be known, some urgent reason moved a number of African Samsons to leave the local Philistines on the lowlands where life was comparatively easy and take to the mountain fastnesses.

If stone-age Delilahs were sent after them, they must have failed because, according to the Sanderson theory, these rugged individuals not only grew hairier but bigger and stronger, while the men of the lowlands remained puny and hairless, possibly originating the almost universal ancient belief, exemplified in the Samson story, that hairiness and muscular strength go together.

These mountain Samsons who could have carried away the gates of a city or performed any of the Biblical strong man's feats with one hand, fell behind the plainsmen in communication, weapons and all the other tricks which can only be developed when men live together in communities, even though most of them live as slaves. Nevertheless the muscular hermits of the mountains retained many human characteristics, including the distinctly human invention of tying knots in creepers when they build a sleeping platform in the trees strong enough to hold their 700 pounds of bone and muscle.

"Man-Beef" the Natives of Assumbo in the Gorilla Country Call the Great Brute, Says Explorer Sanderson, and This Stuffed Gorilla at the American Museum of Natural History Shows Extraordinary Human Characteristics.

The Gorilla Baby Go
Just Like a Human
About the Same
Gestu

In his fascinating African jungle book, "Animal Treasure," published by the Viking Press, New York, Sanderson relates that the idea did not originate with him but came to him from what he considers a better and older authority, the people of Assumbo. The opinion of some African savages, such as the Bokis, may not be worth asking on much of anything, but the Assumbos he had found to be the reliable type of character which made their opinion worthy of respect on any matter with which they were familiar. He writes:

"The people of Assumbo believe gorillas to be another race of men, and not an animal at all. The chimpanzee is, on the other hand, a great monkey to them and only aping man. They are an honest people and not given to imaginative story-telling, and as they probably see more gorillas and know more of their habits than does any other group of human beings in the world, I think their opinions should at least be listened to.

"They affirm that there is no case in their memory of gorillas trying to carry off women, which would be the first thing they would pretend gorillas did if they wished to confirm their statement that these apes are really men. I myself, as a zoologist, naturalist, and an ordinary sane person, am in absolute agreement with the Assumbos. Seeing these creatures in life, listening to their calls and talk and examining them both alive and dead alongside chimpanzees and men, I can only regard them and treat them as a retrograde form of human or at least subhuman life.

"They not only have hands, faces and, to a certain extent, feet like our own, but they use them in exactly the same manner as we do. Their speech contains as many different sounds and types of sounds as any human language. They have constructive ability, shown in building platforms, using sticks and sorting out objects, that is on a par with that of some adult humans.

Photograph of a Gorilla Hiding Along the Trail and Watching a File of Travelers; It Is the Gorilla's Curious Habit to Pop Out and Take a Big Bite Out of the Last Man in the Line, Says Explorer Sanderson.

"Furthermore, they bear strong family likenesses and equally well-marked inter-family differences. The natives of these mountains live alongside the gorillas and know all the families by sight, so that they can tell you, more or less, in which district one will meet certain parties, what they will look like and how many of them there will be.

"Scientists have been at great pains to define a number of races of gorillas. There are undoubtedly two, the mountain and the plains forms, the latter being really distinct and confined to a small area in the East. I have seen in Assumbo a greater variety of color, shape and size among gorillas, within a small area than all that displayed by the so-called sub-races, from all over Africa where the gorilla is met with.

"Individual gorillas vary and show family resemblances just like men. One family may have bright-red crests on their heads, even the very young, another may be almost entirely silvery-gray in color, and others almost jet-black. Of course there are, apart from these, certain colors that go with age, notably gray hair, as among men.

"We spent a great deal of time hunting gorillas with our friend Afa. George once actually got right among a large party, listened to them hurping over their food, was bawled at by the old male and saw them beating their chests with their clenched fists.

"I inspected several of their 'nests,' which are really great platforms raised a few feet from the ground and constructed for use during the night's rest when on the move from one feeding ground to another. These were formed by bending saplings inward and placing on top of this springy mattress a mass of leafy branches, torn from the surrounding trees. Among these I counted more than two dozen complete knots, made in the creepers and saplings to hold them down. They were mostly 'grannies,' but there were three real 'reef' knots (one of which I cut out and kept) which had undoubtedly resulted only by chance. The size of some of the branches torn and ripped to make these platforms was quite staggering and bore testimony to the terrific strength of these creatures.

"That the male gorilla will usually attack on sight, or rather, as soon as he knows he has been seen, is an undoubted fact, at least in Assumbo. When he does so, he stands erect and gathers the branches in his arms before him to screen himself. Is there anything but a human that would do this?"

There are other tales suggesting that sometimes it is even worse when the gorilla sees human trespassers but is not seen by them. For instance, when Assumbo natives traverse gorilla territory they avoid as much as possible the usual and convenient method of marching in single file. When, as often happens, this is unavoidable, the most dangerous and unpopular position is not leader of the file but the last man.

This is because the gorillas have a quaint habit of hiding until the last

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And speaking of correspondence, I also came across a slide that I had taken of Phil Klass (anti-ufo/fortean) who died some years ago. What this slide did was for me to recall this: some 5-7 years ago, I was scanning the internet for Ivan and I came across this web site that had mention some of Ivan's correspondence with Klass, that was in some ufo archives that had acquired Klass's files. If I recall correctly, I think these few letters were from the late 190s on the subject. I never check this out, and in fact, had forgotten about it until I saw this test dupe I had done on one of the slides from that 1977 INFO fest.

So that is another lead that may be of help on Ivan's scattered correspondence.

I copied the last package that I had received from Lanier's daughter on some of Ivan's file that she had sent me. I am trying to relocate the Sterling Lanier file I had (misplace somewhere) that has some more interesting data that her father had about Ivan.

Also, I cam across 2 parts of a four parts series I was working on Ivan in 2005 before the NORTH AMERICAN BIOFORTEAN JOURNAL cease adding new issues. I cannot find my disc with the other parts to this series (for the life of me, I cannot even remember just what was on the other two parts!!) but this had some interesting memories by people who had met Ivan.

Gennaro had written in 1973 an fortean article for ARGOSY on the giant octopus of Florida (they stiff him for payment!!) and he didn't know that the science editor was none other than Ivan until I had told him about it!

I have held back coping the FANTASTIC UNIVERSE articles that Ivan had written for them, as I am using my dimishing toner for my copier supplies for the files that you need first. But I had an extra copy at hand that I came across of the index that I had done some years ago on just what was published in that science fiction magazine. From 1957 to its end, I had acquire after years! of running down these forgotten issues that had these articles Ivan wrote, sort of a test run for those he wrote for FATE.

So this index and brief abstract of what was in these issues may be of more help to you.

Two more things: one is that I had copied my complete file that I have on the radio/tv series of 1948 NATURAL TREASURE -- I found bits and pieces in the N.Y. TIMES radio/television pr column. Not much really, but ironically !!! -- when I was checking out the WASHINGTON POST sunday column in their books section, they had this sunday weekly column of the various magazines that came out that week and made note of some interesting and off beat articles that got published in them. Well, one column had about the SATURDAY EVENING POST article about FIBBER MAGEE AND MOLLY, the stars of this radio series. I had listen to their shows on the old time radio channels, taking some time off from my other project, I had looked up the microfilm for this out of curiosity. Had some interesting article (1 of 2 parts) about them. Curious I read the second part, and then it seems that this 2 part of

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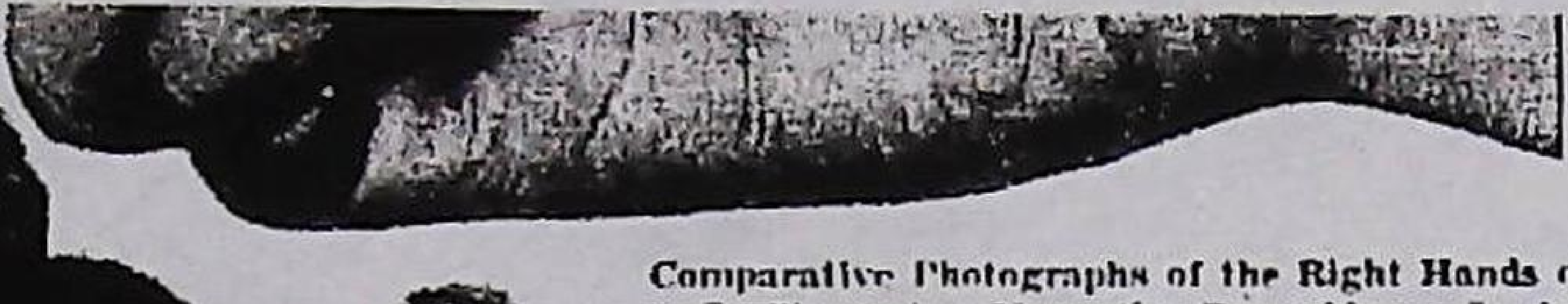
The Gorilla Baby Goes Into a Temper Just Like a Human Child and With About the Same Expression and Gestures.



Comparative Photographs of the Right Hands of a Gorilla and a Man—the Resemblance Is Astonishingly Close, Even to the Lines Across the Palms. The Hands of No Other Apes Have Such Similarity.

avelers;
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of leafy branches, torn from the surrounding trees. Among these I counted more than two dozen complete knots, made in the creepers and saplings to hold them down. They were mostly 'grannies,' but there were three real 'reef' knots (one of which I cut out and kept) which had undoubtedly resulted only by chance. The size of some of the branches torn and ripped to make these platforms was quite staggering and bore testimony to the terrific strength of these creatures.

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There are other tales suggesting that sometimes it is even worse when the gorilla sees human trespassers but is not seen by them. For instance, when Assumbo natives traverse gorilla territory they avoid as much as possible the usual and convenient method of marching in single file. When, as often happens, this is unavoidable, the most dangerous and unpopular position is not leader of the file but the last man.

This is because the gorillas have a quaint habit of hiding until the last man is passing when they reach out and bite a huge mouthful of muscle from his thigh, and vanish. Sanderson was shown two men who had been crippled by these bites but was told that most such victims die, presumably from blood-poisoning.

This strategy of taking just one quick nip from only the last man reveals that the gorilla has as profound an understanding of the Assumbo man as that thoughtful colored man has of his mighty neighbor, thinks Sanderson. If the gorilla should attempt to bite the leader or anyone else except the very last man he would get speared or shot by the man just behind. As it is, the gorilla gets away unscathed and, until someone devises a pair of iron pants for last men to wear, these nip-and-run tactics will continue to have as much moral effect in reducing traffic through gorilla territory as if the powerful creatures risked attacking the whole party.

Coming upon the body of a male specimen weighing between 600 and 700 pounds, that had been shot by a native hunter, the author expresses his feelings as follows:

"I shall never quite forget the emotions that this sight conjured up inside of me. I had always been taught to think of the gorilla as the very essence of savagery and terror, and now there lay this hoary old vegetarian, his immense arms folded over his great pot belly, all the fire gone from his wrinkled, black face, his soft brown eyes wide open beneath their long straight lashes and filled with an infinite sorrow.

"Into his whole demeanor I could not help but read the tragedy of his race, driven from the plains up into the mountains countless centuries ago by more active ape-like creatures—perhaps even our own forebears; chevied hither and thither by the ever-encroaching hoardes of hairless, shouting little men, his young ones snatched by leopards, his feeding grounds restricted by farms and paths and native huntsmen.

"All around him was a changing world, against which he bellowed his defiance to the end, rushing forward to meet the bits of lead blasted at him by his puny rival. At last the Munchis came and the sad old man was lashed to two young trees and borne away by 30 staggering, chanting humans, away from the silence of the mists, away from his last, tangled stronghold; yet not quite the last of the giants and not quite unmourned."

But why did the stout fellows, ancestors of these giants, leave the more favorable plains to their feebler fellow humans or subhumans? One may easily suspect a plausible cause. It probably came about at the dawn of organization in Africa, the beginning of community life. Little organizations of a few families fought others of similar size, carefully keeping away from certain extra-husky Samsons.

But finally family enslaved family until tribes grew so powerful in numbers that no one of these Samsons could stand against them.

The weakness of the rugged individualist is that he always plays a lone hand and gets pulled down, one at a time, by the pack. Finally it became a choice of being exterminated or retreating to the mountain wilderness.

There, as outlaws but still unorganized individualists, they gained in strength and certain kinds of cunning but their mental development, as a whole, came to a stop. Only a very small side branch of the breed managed to survive in the lowland jungles.

Fascinating speculations arise regarding certain similarities of habits among gorillas and Negro natives. Everyone who has seen a gorilla is impressed by his characteristic habit of beating his breast with the same horny knuckles on which he walks when going on all fours. The gorilla has a huge chest, as round and almost as big as a barrel and when he thumps it, the great cavity of the lungs reverberates as if he were beating a drum, producing a sound that can be heard for three miles.

Is it possible that when the gorilla's ancestors took to the mountains, most everyone had a big enough chest to use as a drum but that later the human native's chest shrank until, as today, it became an inefficient noise-maker?

Anyhow, while the gorilla still beats his, the Negro has invented an artificial chest, the African tom-tom drum, which he still thumps with his knuckle, gorilla style, but is able to send his message many times farther than the biggest and mightiest chest-pounder.

Another curious thought arises about a custom still persisting in many African tribes of not burying the bodies of chiefs and other tribal dignitaries but exposing them on platforms high up in trees to be devoured by carnivorous birds.

To just such a platform the gorilla today retires to die of sickness or wounds and there the birds often devour him as they do the smaller body of the chief or witch doctor.

Magic and mysticism often carry on in their rituals customs that were once universal and useful but have been so long abandoned that the tribe itself has forgotten that it ever had such a custom.

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FIBBER, was a lead in to next's week article on radio's most bloopers that got on the air. Still curious, I was interested to see what the readers wrote in regarding the FIBBERS show, and I came across in the Sat. Eve. Post letters column this: they had no published replies on the FIBBERS, but on radio's bloopers --- INCLUDING the sec. of Ivan Sanderson who wrote in about the bloopers THEY HAD!! --- I literally almost was screaming when I read this in sheer shock, as by a series of odds concidences and synconcity, I came across some background data on this show that I didn't know about by sheer luckly because I listen to Fibber Magee and Molly shows!

Talk about sheer luck!! - this is what you get when you do research, you look for one thing, and come across another!

And I still don't know if any of these shows still exist or not of NATURAL TREASURE.

Also, I have copied my complete CBS color tv system file that I had accumulated from NEWSWEEK, TIME, LIFE, LOOK, N.Y.TIMES, WASHINGTON POST of the controversy they had with this system.

This was making the news a lot, including people who were making their own (!!) CBS color tv system for 30 cents!! And of the tests runs they were doing, such as the infamous story, SORRY WRONG NUMBER, being shown in color to a dozen Wash. D.C. viewers - Harry Truman had a CBS color tv set in the White House in 1950!

And the Wash. Post had the only mention of what was being shown on that series - I have not found any other mention else of anyone else saying what was being seen on this color series. But I did locate their product sponsors for that CBS color show!

I got still more stuff to send you, and will as soon as I can.

I am sorry for this delay, as I have given you TOP PRIORITY over everyone else right now. And before I forget, I had FINALLY been able to produce an audio tape copy from my MP3 disc of several more Long John Nebel talk shows that had Ivan on it, including the infamous FANTASTIC UNIVERSE ufo show that was mention by that magazine itself! How these shows got saved at all I have no idea!!! I know that some persons in the 1950s had designed tape recorders that could record some of these shows off the air, and these tapes are surfacing from forgotten collections. These are a few more of them. It takes me a while to dupe these, as I have rigged up a jurry-riged system of making audio tapes copies -- not the best, but listenable. Some of these recordings themselves are not of the best in the first place -- but importantly, they have survived!!!

I will get this package out to you this coming weekend, as I have to recheck these xerox copies to make sure that I have all references sources on them as to where they had came from.

Hope this stuff is of some help, more is coming as soon as I can do it.

Take care...and drop me a postcard that this package had arrived safely.

One more thing --- last month I had attended an INFO FEST convention after 20 years, and I met there Robert Durant. We talk briefly about you and Ivan's biography. Also, I had two photos taken of me and Robert together -- unfortunately only one shot (in 3-D!) came out with us two together. I can make a print from it if you need it for your book, just let me know.

Your fellow fortean......

Gary S. Mangiacopra

7-21 March 2010
7 Arlmont Street
Milford, Conn
06461

Richard Grigonis
510A Portsmouth Drive
Lakewood, New Jersey 08701

Dear Richard:-

I must begin this letter with an apology for these unplanned delays (including a week-long illness with a "bug") for me to finally complete this reply letter to your lengthly letter of February 26th.

To begin, prior before receiving your letter, I acquire a copy of your 150+ pages tribute to Ivan Sanderson. And I must say, that of all of the 10,000's web sites that I have seen that refers to Ivan, yours is the first one that took a hard "cold-case file" look at his life that no one else has ever attempted before. For this I "tip my hat to you" for what you had accomplish. Congratulations!!

And to begin my letter, I shall start with the ending of yours letter. You were uncertain if I would be willing to share with whatever information I have regarding Ivan's background. I do not know if you had previous disappointment from other individuals while seeking information on a project, but if I can be of any assistance with my vast private library and files, my personal resources if they can be of any assistance to you, are freely open to you.

As a fellow researcher, I know the nightmarish situation all too well of trying to locate decades (or centuries!) of old and long forgotten sources that are almost impossible to obtain through normal investigate channels. Libraries, for the most part, don't have such obscure and defunct publications one needs, and one literally must go to the private collector/researcher who has the data and is willing to help you.

Thus, if we forteans don't help each other, then who can we go to in our times of need? You are more then welcome to the files that I have presently obtained on Ivan over the past 10 years.

Since you gave a background on youself, the below is a brief summary of myself:

Born 1950 in Connecticut. Live most of my life in this state, aside from three years in Pennsylvania when I attended graduate school there.

Undergraduate degree in biology at University of New Haven, in New Haven, Connecticut in 1974.

Obtained my master's degree in biology at Southern Connecticut State University, New Haven, Connecticut, in 1992. Thesis for completion of my degree: Theoretical Population Estimates Of The Large Aquatic Animals In Selected Freshwater Lakes Of North America. (Simply, one can estimated the numbers/size of lake monsters based upon the available fish supply. The figures even startled me of what I got, which were NOT favorable as others has proposed.)

From 1975-late 2000, wrote a series of pioneering articles on sightings of sea and lake monsters, and other cryptids for the mollusc(!) journal, OF SEA AND SHORE. This was, and still is, the only outlet I had for publication of such papers when no one wanted them at all! This publication had allowed me access to other sources by being a published author.

During this same time period, wrote various articles for Pursuit, INFO Jour nal, Fate, The Anomalist, and the e-journal, The North American Biofortean Review.

First book published 2007: Does Champ Exist? I was able to salvage and rebuilt whatever information was surviving on the first and most important crypto-conference on the Lake Champlain monster in 1981. Literally, almost everything that was taken by others, photographs, reel-to-reel audio recordings, etc., as far as I was able to determine is lost -- or no one bother to do any recordings or take photographs in the first place!

Currently series of books in various manuscripts stages:

Marine Monsters:
Vol. 1: Atlantic sightings
Vol. 2: Pacific sightings

Lake Monsters: Unknown water animals of North American Continent.

As Yet Uncaught Animals: reports of various animals, such as black panthers of Connecticut, surviving passenger pigeons, unknown bird species, giant 400 pound beavers, etc.

The Hagenbeck Controversy - The Century Old Quest to Capture Africa's Last LIVING Dinosaurs!

Rescure Colonel Fawcett!! -- Why for the past century were explorers risking and literally dying to find out whatever has happened to P. H. Fawcett in the Amazon in 1925.

Gardner Soule - the forgotten 4th man of early crypto articles in the 1950s & 60's. Trying to obtain reprints rights to his articles that were published in POPULAR SCIENCE & BOYS' LIFE scouting magazine.

Flight Before The Wrights! - Maned-power flight from 1901 to circa 3,000 B.C. (The Wrights got the credit, but there is enough data to indicate they were not the first to really do so!)

UFO - The True Story Of Flying Saucers: The 1956 United Artist release of this UFO motion picture and its production background history and present-day cult-classic status as the definitive documentary by which all others are compared against.

The Lost Writings of Ivan T. Sanderson - reprints of many of his various articles, etc, that he wrote for many publications and are totally neglected and not even known to have been published at all.

Transcription series: - speakers transcriptions of what were presented at various fortean/cryptozoological conferences. Aside from brief summaries in various obscure publications, what were presented for the most part are lost today.

Television appearances:

1988 October - Kelly & Company Talke Show (Detroit, Michigan) - was one of three speakers: 2 others - Dr. Roy P. Mackal, and (deceased) Dr. Stephen Kaplan, vampire hunter!

2001 - History Mysteries Series: program on lake and sea monsters, one of several interviewers.

2005 - Animal X - was one of several persons interviewed. (never received a copy of the show as they said they would send me; currently still trying to obtain a copy of the show myself).

2007 - Monsterquest - Lake Champlain Monster: received ½ second credit at the end of the program!

2008 - Monsterquest - Boneless Horror: was one of several interviewers on the 1896 Florida giant octopus controversy.

2008 - The Lives and Struggles of Crytptozoologists (winner of the 2008 Vermont Independent Film Awards): interviewed along with Loren Coleman, Dr. Jeff Meldrum, Pat Spain, Scott Mardis, etc.

This gives a quick summary of my past achievements regarding the field of cryptozoology & fortean. Now on to your letter --

I was most surprise that you had mention that you made your media appearance on the old late night radio talk show host program of Barry Farber. As of that time, I was an undergraduate in college then, and my late father would bring home the New York Daily News newspaper where in their daily radio listings of the day the program topics would be listed. This was how I first became aware of the Barry Farber show and his guests listed for that night. That was how I became aware of Ivan Sanderson being listed as a frequent guest and later as his subsitute host.

It was through this daily radio listings that I listened that night, not knowing what the topic would be, of the sonar recording contact of this Alaskan sea-monster incident. Though I can still recall some of Ivan's comments 4 decades later about this controversy, I must be honest, I don't recall the others names given on the show that night, and cann recall that there was a young teenager on the panel.

Incidently, by any chance do you have any audio copies of these "lost" Barry Farber radio talk shows that Ivan was on? There were at least a dozen or so I tried to listen too when I was going to college at that time, and I have tried to locate if any of them is still available, with no luck. If anyone has these Farber shows tape recordings that you know of, please let me know! I have been trying to locate them for years with no success!

My own biography on Ivan started about 2003 when I began to outline a series of proposed articles on various aspects of his life in the mid-1940s when he was breaking in the media of New York City 1946-1960, and was making himself a household name via his television networks programs.

This 1½ decade was Ivan at his height of his nationwide notority, before he turned to the field of unexplained phenomena in the 1960s. I had intended originally to present them as a series in the e-journal, the North American Biofortean Review, but the publication ceased producing new issues.

This intrigue me to continue further research into his life, where I was intending to do 1-2 books dealing with reprints of Ivan's many articles that were never reprinted since, along with some of his background history.

I went further of trying to locate anyone who had known him, even just once personally, to try and get their remarks about him. I undertook the impossible project of trying to contact anyone who was still alive who knew him personally, or even had just written to him. Towards this end I was partly successful.

A decease/still living listings of those who knew Ivan that

I had established. Many still living are in their 80s!!!

Deceased - John A. Keel - died last year; knew a lot about Ivan, some he did tell others.

Deceased - Carl J. Pabst (met Ivan once, when Carl started researching the Charles Fort notes at the N.Y. library)

Deceased - Al Lopez (met Ivan a dozen times).

Deceased(?) - Ronald Rosenblatt - almost met Ivan in the mid-west, John Keel told him a lot about Ivan. Have his correspondence to me.

George Earley - 84 years, met Ivan and had correspondence with him.

George D. Fawcett - 80's, did radio interview with him, later they shared a snack of chocolate-covered ants! (no joke!).

Loren Coleman - has correspondence file on Ivan.

Dr. Roy P. Mackal - met Ivan personally and corresponded.

Sterling E. Lanier - was alive 2 years ago, very ill. In contact mostly with his daughter in France. Close friend with Ivan, was his book agent for Abominable Snowman. File on him in the Sanderson archives.

Dr. Joseph F. Gennaro, Jr. (of 1896 Florida giant octopus fame). Somehow we got in correspondence about Ivan Sanderson, I think it was about that Gennaro had done an article on the giant Florida octopus for Argosy in March 1973, and told me that they NEVER PAID him for his article! I told Gennaro that Ivan Sanderson was the science editor for that magazine. Gennaro wrote back, he didn't knew that, but that he once had lunch with Ivan in the late 1950s who was with his friend Pinney regarding some matter when they visited his university he was at.

I was sitting in my chair at my desk, my legs up on the table reading the letter -- and I literally nearly fell out of my chair when I read that! As Gennaro never told anyone that he had lunch with Ivan, as he was more interested with Ivan's friend who was a photographer! And yes, I got a detail account of his lunch date with Ivan.

I went further and tried placing notices in various journals. A notice was placed in the newsletter the THE BIGFOOT TIMES, ed. Danny Perez, asking does anyone has any information, etc., about Ivan. Got back NOT ONE reply from anyone! -- a dead end.

Took a wild chance by placing a notice in the photography publication, STEREO WORLD (my hobby is taking 3-D slide) asking if anyone may have taken any type of photography of Ivan's Jungle World in New Jersey in the early 1950s before the fire and 1955 flood destroyed it. Of 2,000 woldwide photography members -- not one reply again from anyone to my request.

My findings of the various radio/television programs Ivan was either on or associated with is near identical with yours, with just slight variations:

1948 - Mary Margaret McBride tv show. Lasted on 13 programs, Ivan was on the second show, unknown if he was on any of the remainder shows. At present undetermined if any of these shows still exist.

1948/49 - NBC Natural Treasure, lasted 51 ½ hour programs. There was also a radio version of it that lasted 150 shows.

Indications are that Ivan may have had shown on one of his 1949 shows of his Florida expedition looking for that giant 15 foot tall penguin monster that was reported at the time. Undetermented if any radio/tv programs still exist.

1951 - CBS COLOR tv series, The World Is Yours. From June-August 1951; then 3-1 hour CBS color shows on Saturday in October of that year, before CBS shut down its color tv system. Other CBS color tv shows was a homemakers morning show; Mike and Pat (Mike Wallace was host); Mel Tormne (the singer) variety show; that replace Ivan's show; then that was replaced with mics color programs until these shows were discontinued during the weekdays.

Contemporary newspaper and magazines of that era indicates that there were possibly 100 professionally produce CBS color tvs made, while the estimate of 1,000 home made color tv sets were made by all of those do-it-yourselfers -- not counting those persons who were able to buy an adapter that could scan down the CBS color broadcasts to 405 lines from 525 and see the program in black and white as they didn't have a color wheel adapter unit for color.

Consulting my collection of the late 1940s/early 50s Popular Science, Popular Mechanics, Mechanic Illustrated, Science and Mechanics magazines, which were publishing how-to-do articles of building your own CBS color tv systems to see the test pattern and then the shows then being broadcasted in color. At best, my estimated that perhaps 3,000 persons a day were watching these shows in CBS color. Literally one could give a listings of names of people who were watching Ivan in color for 1951, as I am compiling.

And one of those names were no less than fellow fortean Loren Coleman! It seems that Loren's father was one of the first persons in Maine to have and prompt the new technological item, tv, and had even made one of these CBS color tv systems. Loren as a young kid watch this color tv, but he had no idea of who he was watching (Ivan) until I had told him about this over the phone.

Amusing, there was complete silence on the other end of Loren's phone when he heard this, as he was shock from the realization that his first exposure to Ivan was watching this color tv programs of his, and it took half a century for him to realized it!

I had talk with Ed Retain, the expert on the history of early color tv systems. He informed me (at that time) that no existing kinescope copies of any of these CBS color programs are known to exist. That he contacted even Mike Wallace who informed him that CBS records of this 1951 project were not saved. Nothing exists historically about them.

Though checking contemporary magazines, I was able to learn the program sponsors of Ivan's color series, but not much else. I was unable to get access to any contemporary media magazines of that era, such as Radio and TV Mirror magazine, that might have some pr background on Ivan. This is one lead that is hard to check due to the lack of any available copies of such publications.

This aspect on Ivan's media career, as to why he would have gotten involved in a project that had only an viewing audience of the 3,000 range daily, is fascinating and puzzling still to me.

Because this CBS vs. RCA tv color wars delayed color tv by 15 years. I recall that CBS was showing its color tv system at the 1939/40 N.Y. Worlds fair and that a 1946 LIFE magazine had an article of the CBS color tv system mock-up in its pages. Plus the general science magazines were showing tv adapters you could buy for 10-15 dollars range to convert your tv to the CBS system scanning lines. In effect, for about $15 then (est. $100 todays money) you could have had a 1946/47 tv already off the production line ready for CBS color. We could have had ready broadcast color tv shows by as early as 1946 when tv broadcasting was resumed in this country, but RCA prevented this from happening. After all, why spend $1,500 for a 1954 RCA color tv, when you could build your own color tv for 30¢! -- I got the article of a guy in New Jersey who built his color tv for 30¢ worth of color cellaphane and left over phonograph parts in his basement!

1951 - the radio program, The Adventures of Sam Spade. Though Ivan was not on the show as an actor, his name was used deliberately as a villain who gets killed as Ivan T.(!!) Sanderson over a valuable string of pearls!

1952 - The Big Game Hunt. Ivan was the introductory host to these re-edited 26 ½ hour syndicated tv show of the Martin & Olsa Johnson wildlife films of the 1930s and before. The Johnson Safari Museum at Chanute, Kansas have in their possession the original 35 mm negatives of this "lost" tv series, which at one point was stored at the Wright-Patterson Air Force base! Why, their records don't indicate why would these negatives have been stored there of all places. I also talk with Lester Becker, who edited this series, he doesn't recall Ivan at all. This is the earliest motion pictures of him that I have determine is in existence at present.

1956 - Spring, had the WOR radio program, The Ivan Sanderson Show. No idea what the program contents were about. I actually came across this by sheer chance when I was looking for something else on the New York Times radio weekly listings.

Ivan was involved with other tv programs, to what extent I am still uncertain, because in a resume copy that I had obtained, his radio/tv media timeline was definitely off -- because I check the New York Times entertaiment section and got conclusive broadcast time proof of when it was occurring.

During the 1940s & 50s, Ivan was a very busy man both as a professional writer and in the early years of the post-war boom in the media entertainment.

With regards to Ivan himself and anyone who wants to do a biography on this fascinating -- and very complex man. More complex than anyone at first glance may realize. But I also began noticing problems also.

What I began to find was disparities on what was generally assumed to be known about him, and what really was going on. And though I have the utmost high esteem for him -- as today what I am is because of his pioneering work when no one else would undertake it that had influence me greatly -- Ivan twisted or alter a lot of personal things, for what reasons I still don't know myself as to why he would do so?

I had obtained from Dr. Michael D. Swords, a good contact who was a former SITU member and the late International Cryptozoological Society, who had access to someone's UFO archives, where he was able to send me copies of some correspondence files on Ivan from the late 1950s -- which reveal some interesting things:

The foremost one was, by 1958, Ivan was living way beyond his financial means, and he had gotten hit with a major financial blow when Garry Moore, host of the same show, had taken leave of the show. Meaning that Ivan's regular weekly livelyhood of making cash showing his animals was completely cut off. Rumors has it that Garry Moore had some type of nervous breakdown or sheer exhaustion, of running a show 5 days a week, live!

Also, from the Sanderson archives in Phil., I had gotten the Sterling E. Lanier correspondence (actually for another matter, but still wanted to get an idea of what these archives might hold).

This file was an eye opener! Turns out that the publisher of Ivan's classic tome, ABSM - Legend comes to life. They were, to put it sheer bluntly !! -- screwing him out of $10,000 in royalities when he was desperately needing it! They were jigging Ivan left and right, and Ivan was having strong correspondence with Lanier as he was Ivan's book agent, as to where is the cash! I need it!!" -- This alone was that everyone (including me), had assumed Ivan made a nice bundle from that classic book! Instead, he was out (counting inflation) equall to $50,000 in today's money. And Lanier also told how, I think it was Dr. William Beebe (not sure, have to check letter) would not shake Ivan's hand as he thought Ivan was a crank!

John Keel was interviewed by STRANGE magazine circa 1990, and he told some facts about Ivan. Basicly, Ivan had a bunch of freeloaders (and these were whose's who of science) who ate him out of house and home and drunk his liquor, never buying anything! He also got stuck with a lot of people who used him when Ivan had connections in the entertainment or scientific world. When Ivan started to slip in those fields and could be no further use, people disappeared on him when he needed help.

I also came to the conclusion on a few dishearting things; and I don't know if you may have reach this conclusion, but possibly too. So I shall say this: by 1960, Ivan was becoming a relict of the early vaudaville days of the golden age of television when New York City was king of this field, only to be replace by Hollywood by the early 1960s

Ivan with his animals acts was a novelity to the general public right after WW II and with the new technological toy of television showing sights that people who were only rich could travel and see. Now it was becoming common-place for the general American public. It's like the actor Ceasar Romero (who played the villain, the joker, on the 1960s camp tv series, BATMAN) when asked to comment on the late Brazilian actress and singer, Carmen Miranda (the dancer with the tuty-fruity hats in those camp classic WW II technicolor 20th-Century Fox musicals) career, "Carmen was a novelty act -- and the novelty wore off."

Perhaps a better description of Ivan's media career is that famous description given by actor Mickey Rooney on an actor's 5-phase career in show's business:

"Whose's Mickey Rooney? Get me Mickey Rooney! Get me a Mickey Rooney type! Get me a young Mickey Rooney! Whose's Mickey Rooney?"

That is what I think had happened to Ivan. His peak was in the early 1950s and slide downward afterwards.

By the late 1950s, Ivan was writing under a pen name as "Terence Roberts" for his only science fiction novel that he published. I don't have a copy of this book, though I do have the book reviews of that time, and apparently no one knew it was that of Ivan Sanderson, the naturalist. Also, Ivan penned a couple of sc-fi stories in FANTASTIC UNIVERSE under a fake name, though used his own name for the fortean articles he wrote for the same magazine.

Though Loren Coleman is credited of getting Ivan to set up a society for the investigation of the unexplained in the early 1960s, I think Ivan jump on it anyway. As a way of starting up a second career in both the writing and media business and to get money rolling in. We both concluded, by the 1960s, he was busted cashwise.

So by going into the fortean field in the 1960s, he made another name for himself in a field that no one wanted to touch. Thereby he kept his name in the news until his death in 1973.

In the summer of 1985, I went to the University of South Carolina at Columbia to examine their newspaper morgue files of the New York World-Telegram-Sun, some 50 million (!!) clippings from those combined newspaper. Among the listings I check for, one was on Ivan, and I got copied that small filed they had on him. And luckly I did, as several years ago, I was checking on the internetas I was trying to locate whatever happened to this unique newspaper collection, I learn that the University shorty afterwards I had seen the files, had destroyed them all!

Recently, I had learn of a second newspaper morgue archives at the University of Texas at Austin of the New York Herald-Tribune which I thought was destroyed years ago. I obtained their newspaper clipping filed on Ivan and a few others, as a test piece to see what they may contain.

That file contained news accounts in that newspaper, mostly of his book reviews, some news clippings, and surprising, a N.Y. World-Telegram one page entertainment page on Ivan and his animals. This clipping was not in the W-T-S 1985 archives, but it was in this Herald-Tribune files.

I also check at my graduate school library on the microfilm of the N.Y. Times & Washington Post and found more references on Ivan's media life in their entertainment pages.

I am convinced that you can find more background on Ivan's in the New York newspapers of that era, and there were more than a half-a-dozen of them from the late 1940s-50s. The N.Y. Daily News; N.Y. Mirror; N.Y. Post; N.Y. Sun; N.Y. World-Tribune; etc. I know that these newspapers are on the newspaper internet site that one can utilized, and if one can set up a search engine, they could find references to Ivan in the media and the contemporary gosship columns of that era. That was where I was finding bits and pieces about Ivan and his wife, such as their antics of feeding hamburger to their pet praying mantis at a restaurant!

I also tried the freedom of information act. I cannot recall if I had gotten a reply from them or not. Considering that it is only now being reveal that files were being kept during the 1950s on a lot of the ufo investigators or contactees, it is possible that someone may have been keeping a file on Ivan himself and his doings.

Ivan investigated the 1952 Baxton County ufo incident; he himself, had a 1958 sighting that he reported. So he would be a prime candidate on someone watch list.

On other claims of Ivan, such as his mother financing a color tv system in 1918 in England, in the midst of WWI. I remember Ivan telling this story one late night on the Barry Farber radio talk show. And Ivan said that he had some written statement (where is it?) from his mother attesting to this. This radio program was from 1971-72? as I was still an undergraduate at that time in college.

This to me, didn't make sense, even at that time. For one thing, such a tv system, as I recall, that Ivan said that to view the color tv, he had some guy pedeling a bicycle contraction with a bunch of color filters on a wheel in front of the tv system.

Considering that there was a war going on at that time, would anyone had wasted/utilized their resources on such a project when the war effort was needed by everyone? And if there was such a system, the goverment would have grab it so fast for their war effort.

If I have to say anything, I think Ivan was really pulling someone's legs on this. Ivan's 1951 CBS color tv system that was used to show his tv series, was this type of tv color system.

I'm thinking, did Ivan use his 1951 involvement as the basis of "stretching" the truth? That, I am afraid is so. Unless there really was some engineer who was in 1918 had such a tv system and got buried for some reason. Hate to sound like a conspiracy person, but there is good enough examples of advance technological items that were either ignore or buried for years and decades.

But until I get more proof, I stick with Ivan pulling one's legs. Also, I got some 1950s radio talk shows with Ivan on them, and one I recall had him talking about V-2 and falls of ice from the sky. With him saying that the V-2 on their way to London would fly through space with ice forming on their outer shell. Actually, the V-2 skin was being heated up to hundreds of degrees while re-entering the atmosphere, and ice could not formed on it. Either he was mis-informed or he really was stretching the truth to the listening audience.

On Ivan's mother, I don't have anything really about her. What you found is most interesting.

But on Ivan father's and the circumstances surrounding the details of his death, this I found some interesting data.

I recall a Barry Farber radio talk show in which Ivan somehow began talking about his father death. And why I remember this was that he was still mad as hell that his father died as he did! Angry that his father was getting gored by the rhino while some S.O.B. was filming his father getting gored and not really doing anything to help him. That years later he was going through some movie film cans for some wildlife series (though not stated, I feel that the series was for the Johnson's, THE BIG GAME HUNT) and picking a can of film at random, it turned out to be the one in which his father was getting gored by the rhino.

Now Ivan repeated this story in an circa 1961 New York Daily News story on him (I got the copy in my files) and he was still mad as hell. But here is the kicker, Ivan had the same opinion and hostility towards this incident when he was filmed for the host segment of the tv series, The Big Game Hunt, in 1952.

And this I know, as I have a copy of that specific segment on video tape that I got as a favor from the Olsa and Martin Johnson Safari Museum. The Safari Museum at that time was putting on DVD's some of the surviving Johnson's wildlife films, but they had not had plans to put this 26 program shows on DVD. They might have at the present, but I haven't check their web site recently.

I am not sure if Olsa Johnson was still alive or not at that time (rumors had it she became an alcoholic towards the end of her life after Martin was killed in the late 1930s in some plane accident I recall offhand). But Ivan put on film those comments about his father.

The Safari museum had a copy of the report of the wildlife safari of the Johnsons that was given to the American Museum of Natural History. But there was somewhat confusion when you read it as to what was really going on when Ivan's father had been gorged and afterwards. And nothing was really explained and definded clearly. There was either more confusion as my university did have a copy of Johnson's wildlife trip books, and this incident was glossed over -- Sanderson's name listed as "Saunders" in the book.

Why this coverup? Was there something more going on than would be acknowledge? This was still a puzzlement to me and I am not certain just what kind of coverup was going up. Afraid to admit they had a death on their expedition that could have affected potential future backers of their films? I agree that it much more complicated and I don't think the Johnson Safari museum really know of what happened on that expedition or if they have a copy of that film scene of the rhino and Ivan's father.

There is something else that I learn about Ivan that is trivial and amusing, but also leaves some questions after nearly 60 years! In 1951 the radio series, The Adventures of Sam Spade, in which Steve Dunne took over the part from actor Howard Duff who left for Hollywood, there was a show in which some pearls of value were stolen by a bunch of crooks, of which one villian was named Ivan T. (!!) Sanderson who got killed while trying to steal the pearls!

In the book by Martin Grams Jr. (2007), The Radio Adventures of Sam Spade (pp. 207-208), Episode #233, The String of Death Caper, broadcasted 2 Feb, 1951. Grams gives a summary of the program, but only refers to one of the villians as Ivan, not giving the complete full name as it was given in the radio program. One reading this, one would not have recognized that this "Ivan" was Ivan T. Sanderson.

This radio program had a lot of in-jokes throughout its six-year run on NBC & CBS channel. As to why Ivan's name would have turned up as a villian, I don't know. However, in this case the Wisconsin Historical Society has the producer of this show archives in their possession. Though I had not as yet check further out in this case, what is interesting to me, though trivial, is why was Ivan's named used in the show. Did the producer or writers of the show knew Ivan or what?

Considering that it was 1951, and Ivan was rather contemporary well known at that time, that could be a reason. But what is important in this case is that records were saved, and just where they are.

I should also add, that we both concluded that Ivan should have been born as a twin! That Ivan himself, was a fortean medical anomaly! That he in the womb, had absorbed his twin and had incorporated his genes to account for his duplicated organs he had possessed.

I believe I have exhausted what I can say at this present time in regards to your letter. I am sending later this week a package with two sets of the 1952 THE BIG GAME HUNT videos and the radio adventures of Sam Spade for your research files. I also tossed in a few videos of myself on the programs I had been on, I had to make a set for another researcher and ran off a second set for you, as to give a background on me. These are extra copies, and don't need to be return.

I have also some 1950s copies from the Wendy Connors audio archives collection of some radio programs Ivan was on, including the 1959 3 hour off-the-cuff remarks he gave at a Robert Gribble ufo group he was visiting that is an earfull! If you need copies I can run off some audio tape copies of them.

I am glad that finally someone is undertaking a very serious and hard look at Ivan's most fascinating and prolific life. Though Ivan was a person who would have been more at in his place as a 19th century explorer collecting animals for the greatest animal dealer Carl Hagenbeck in Germany. He was a holdover from a more simpler age by the time he died in 1973, when science was taken over by the scientific hacks who best attributes is how to write for research grants for their projects, rather than like Ivan who went out and did it on his own. It is only now that things have change like what Ivan had done decades ago. I am talking about todays crypto-hunters who did up the cash themselves, rather then get public taxpayers money to do it, and then go out and get the job done. Perhaps Ivan's time has finally come again.

In any event, let's try and together give Ivan his due in science that he has long been neglected for. If I can be of further help, please inform me and I will try and reply as quickly as it is possible on my part.

Your fellow and former SITU member #1052...

Gary S. Mangiacopra

7-21 March 2010
7 Arlmont Street
Milford, Conn
06461

Richard Grigonis
510A Portsmouth Drive
Lakewood, New Jersey 08701

Dear Richard:-

I must begin this letter with an apology for these unplanned delays (including a week-long illness with a "bug") for me to finally complete this reply letter to your lengthly letter of February 26th.

To begin, prior before receiving your letter, I acquire a copy of your 150+ pages tribute to Ivan Sanderson. And I must say, that of all of the 10,000's web sites that I have seen that refers to Ivan, yours is the first one that took a hard "cold-case file" look at his life that no one else has ever attempted before. For this I "tip my hat to you" for what you had accomplish. Congratulations!!

And to begin my letter, I shall start with the ending of yours letter. You were uncertain if I would be willing to share with whatever information I have regarding Ivan's background. I do not know if you had previous disappointment from other individuals while seeking information on a project, but if I can be of any assistance with my vast private library and files, my personal resources if they can be of any assistance to you, are freely open to you.

As a fellow researcher, I know the nightmarish situation all too well of trying to locate decades (or centuries!) of old and long forgotten sources that are almost impossible to obtain through normal investigate channels. Libraries, for the most part, don't have such obscure and defunct publications one needs, and one literally must go to the private collector/researcher who has the data and is willing to help you.

Thus, if we forteans don't help each other, then who can we go to in our times of need? You are more then welcome to the files that I have presently obtained on Ivan over the past 10 years.

Since you gave a background on youself, the below is a brief summary of myself:

Born 1950 in Connecticut. Live most of my life in this state, aside from three years in Pennsylvania when I attended graduate school there.

Undergraduate degree in biology at University of New Haven, in New Haven, Connecticut in 1974.

Obtained my master's degree in biology at Southern Connecticut State University, New Haven, Connecticut, in 1992. Thesis for completion of my degree: Theoretical Population Estimates Of The Large Aquatic Animals In Selected Freshwater Lakes Of North America. (Simply, one can estimated the numbers/ size of lake monsters based upon the available fish supply. The figures even startled me of what I got, which were NOT favorable as others has proposed.)

From 1975-late 2000, wrote a series of pioneering articles on sightings of sea and lake monsters, and other cryptids for the mollusc(!) journal, OF SEA AND SHORE. This was, and still is, the only outlet I had for publication of such papers when no one wanted them at all! This publication had allowed me access to other sources by being a published author.

During this same time period, wrote various articles for Pursuit, INFO Jour nal, Fate, The Anomalist, and the e-journal, The North American Biofortean Review.

First book published 2007: Does Champ Exist? I was able to salvage and rebuilt whatever information was surviving on the first and most important crypto-conference on the Lake Champlain monster in 1981. Literally, almost everything that was taken by others, photographs, reel-to-reel audio recordings, etc., as far as I was able to determine is lost -- or no one bother to do any recordings or take photographs in the first place!

Currently series of books in various manuscripts stages:

Marine Monsters:
Vol. 1: Atlantic sightings
Vol. 2: Pacific sightings

Lake Monsters: Unknown water animals of North American Continent.

As Yet Uncaught Animals: reports of various animals, such as black panthers of Connecticut, surviving passenger pigeons, unknown bird species, giant 400 pound beavers, etc.

The Hagenbeck Controversy - The Century Old Quest to Capture Africa's Last LIVING Dinosaurs!

Rescure Colonel Fawcett!! -- Why for the past century were explorers risking and literally dying to find out whatever has happened to P. H. Fawcett in the Amazon in 1925.

Gardner Soule - the forgotten 4th man of early crypto articles in the 1950s & 60's. Trying to obtain reprints rights to his articles that were published in POPULAR SCIENCE & BOYS' LIFE scouting magazine.

Flight Before The Wrights! - Maned-power flight from 1901 to circa 3,000 B.C. (The Wrights got the credit, but there is enough data to indicate they were not the first to really do so!)

UFO - The True Story Of Flying Saucers: The 1956 United Artist release of this UFO motion picture and its production background history and present-day cult-classic status as the definitive documentary by which all others are compared against.

The Lost Writings of Ivan T. Sanderson - reprints of many of his various articles, etc, that he wrote for many publications and are totally neglected and not even known to have been published at all.

Transcription series: - speakers transcriptions of what were presented at various fortean/cryptozoological conferences. Aside from brief summaries in various obscure publications, what were presented for the most part are lost today.

Television appearances:

1988 October - Kelly & Company Talke Show (Detroit, Michigan) - was one of three speakers: 2 others - Dr. Roy P. Mackal, and (deceased) Dr. Stephen Kaplan, vampire hunter!

2001 - History Mysteries Series: program on lake and sea monsters, one of several interviewers.

2005 - Animal X - was one of several persons interviewed. (never received a copy of the show as they said they would send me; currently still trying to obtain a copy of the show myself).

2007 - Monsterquest - Lake Champlain Monster: received ½ second credit at the end of the program!

2008 - Monsterquest - Boneless Horror: was one of several interviewers on the 1896 Florida giant octopus controversy.

2008 - The Lives and Struggles of Crytptozoologists (winner of the 2008 Vermont Independent Film Awards): interviewed along with Loren Coleman, Dr. Jeff Meldrum, Pat Spain, Scott Mardis, etc.

This gives a quick summary of my past achievements regarding the field of cryptozoology & fortean. Now on to your letter --

I was most surprise that you had mention that you made your media appearance on the old late night radio talk show host program of Barry Farber. As of that time, I was an undergraduate in college then, and my late father would bring home the New York Daily News newspaper where in their daily radio listings of the day the program topics would be listed. This was how I first became aware of the Barry Farber show and his guests listed for that night. That was how I became aware of Ivan Sanderson being listed as a frequent guest and later as his subsitute host.

It was through this daily radio listings that I listened that night, not knowing what the topic would be, of the sonar recording contact of this Alaskan sea-monster incident. Though I can still recall some of Ivan's comments 4 decades later about this controversy, I must be honest, I don't recall the others names given on the show that night, and cann recall that there was a young teenager on the panel.

Incidently, by any chance do you have any audio copies of these "lost" Barry Farber radio talk shows that Ivan was on? There were at least a dozen or so I tried to listen too when I was going to college at that time, and I have tried to locate if any of them is still available, with no luck. If anyone has these Farber shows tape recordings that you know of, please let me know! I have been trying to locate them for years with no success!

My own biography on Ivan started about 2003 when I began to outline a series of proposed articles on various aspects of his life in the mid-1940s when he was breaking in the media of New York City 1946-1960, and was making himself a household name via his television networks programs.

This 1½ decade was Ivan at his height of his nationwide notority, before he turned to the field of unexplained phenomena in the 1960s. I had intended originally to present them as a series in the e-journal, the North American Biofortean Review, but the publication ceased producing new issues.

This intrigue me to continue further research into his life, where I was intending to do 1-2 books dealing with reprints of Ivan's many articles that were never reprinted since, along with some of his background history.

I went further of trying to locate anyone who had known him, even just once personally, to try and get their remarks about him. I undertook the impossible project of trying to contact anyone who was still alive who knew him personally, or even had just written to him. Towards this end I was partly successful.

A decease/still living listings of those who knew Ivan that

I had established. Many still living are in their 80s!!!

Deceased - John A. Keel - died last year; knew a lot about Ivan, some he did tell others.

Deceased - Carl J. Pabst (met Ivan once, when Carl started researching the Charles Fort notes at the N.Y. library)

Deceased - Al Lopez (met Ivan a dozen times).

Deceased(?) - Ronald Rosenblatt - almost met Ivan in the mid-west, John Keel told him a lot about Ivan. Have his correspondence to me.

George Earley - 84 years, met Ivan and had correspondence with him.

George D. Fawcett - 80's, did radio interview with him, later they shared a snack of chocolate-covered ants! (no joke!).

Loren Coleman - has correspondence file on Ivan.

Dr. Roy P. Mackal - met Ivan personally and corresponded.

Sterling E. Lanier - was alive 2 years ago, very ill. In contact mostly with his daughter in France. Close friend with Ivan, was his book agent for Abominable Snowman. File on him in the Sanderson archives.

Dr. Joseph F. Gennaro, Jr. (of 1896 Florida giant octopus fame). Somehow we got in correspondence about Ivan Sanderson, I think it was about that Gennaro had done an article on the giant Florida octopus for Argosy in March 1973, and told me that they NEVER PAID him for his article! I told Gennaro that Ivan Sanderson was the science editor for that magazine. Gennaro wrote back, he didn't knew that, but that he once had lunch with Ivan in the late 1950s who was with his friend Pinney regarding some matter when they visited his university he was at.

I was sitting in my chair at my desk, my legs up on the table reading the letter -- and I literally nearly fell out of my chair when I read that! As Gennaro never told anyone that he had lunch with Ivan, as he was more interested with Ivan's friend who was a photographer! And yes, I got a detail account of his lunch date with Ivan.

I went further and tried placing notices in various journals. A notice was placed in the newsletter the THE BIGFOOT TIMES, ed. Danny Perez, asking does anyone has any information, etc., about Ivan. Got back NOT ONE reply from anyone! -- a dead end.

Took a wild chance by placing a notice in the photography publication, STEREO WORLD (my hobby is taking 3-D slide) asking if anyone may have taken any type of photography of Ivan's Jungle World in New Jersey in the early 1950s before the fire and 1955 flood destroyed it. Of 2,000 woldwide photography members -- not one reply again from anyone to my request.

My findings of the various radio/television programs Ivan was either on or associated with is near identical with yours, with just slight variations:

1948 - Mary Margaret McBride tv show. Lasted on 13 programs, Ivan was on the second show, unknown if he was on any of the remainder shows. At present undetermined if any of these shows still exist.

1948/49 - NBC Natural Treasure, lasted 51 ½ hour programs. There was also a radio version of it that lasted 150 shows.

Indications are that Ivan may have had shown on one of his 1949 shows of his Florida expedition looking for that giant 15 foot tall penguin monster that was reported at the time. Undetermented if any radio/tv programs still exist.

1951 - CBS COLOR tv series, The World Is Yours. From June-August 1951; then 3-1 hour CBS color shows on Saturday in October of that year, before CBS shut down its color tv system. Other CBS color tv shows was a homemakers morning show; Mike and Pat (Mike Wallace was host); Mel Tormne (the singer) variety show; that replace Ivan's show; then that was replaced with mics color programs until these shows were discontinued during the weekdays.

Contemporary newspaper and magazines of that era indicates that there were possibly 100 professionally produce CBS color tvs made, while the estimate of 1,000 home made color tv sets were made by all of those do-it-yourselfers -- not counting those persons who were able to buy an adapter that could scan down the CBS color broadcasts to 405 lines from 525 and see the program in black and white as they didn't have a color wheel adapter unit for color.

Consulting my collection of the late 1940s/early 50s Popular Science, Popular Mechanics, Mechanic Illustrated, Science and Mechanics magazines, which were publishing how-to-do articles of building your own CBS color tv systems to see the test pattern and then the shows then being broadcasted in color. At best, my estimated that perhaps 3,000 persons a day were watching these shows in CBS color. Literally one could give a listings of names of people who were watching Ivan in color for 1951, as I am compiling.

And one of those names were no less than fellow fortean Loren Coleman! It seems that Loren's father was one of the first persons in Maine to have and prompt the new technological item, tv, and had even made one of these CBS color tv systems. Loren as a young kid watch this color tv, but he had no idea of who he was watching (Ivan) until I had told him about this over the phone.

Amusing, there was complete silence on the other end of Loren's phone when he heard this, as he was shock from the realization that his first exposure to Ivan was watching this color tv programs of his, and it took half a century for him to realized it!

I had talk with Ed Retain, the expert on the history of early color tv systems. He informed me (at that time) that no existing kinescope copies of any of these CBS color programs are known to exist. That he contacted even Mike Wallace who informed him that CBS records of this 1951 project were not saved. Nothing exists historically about them.

Though checking contemporary magazines, I was able to learn the program sponsors of Ivan's color series, but not much else. I was unable to get access to any contemporary media magazines of that era, such as Radio and TV Mirror magazine, that might have some pr background on Ivan. This is one lead that is hard to check due to the lack of any available copies of such publications.

This aspect on Ivan's media career, as to why he would have gotten involved in a project that had only an viewing audience of the 3,000 range daily, is fascinating and puzzling still to me.

Because this CBS vs. RCA tv color wars delayed color tv by 15 years. I recall that CBS was showing its color tv system at the 1939/40 N.Y. Worlds fair and that a 1946 LIFE magazine had an article of the CBS color tv system mock-up in its pages. Plus the general science magazines were showing tv adapters you could buy for 10-15 dollars range to convert your tv to the CBS system scanning lines. In effect, for about $15 then (est. $100 todays money) you could have had a 1946/47 tv already off the production line ready for CBS color. We could have had ready broadcast color tv shows by as early as 1946 when tv broadcasting was resumed in this country, but RCA prevented this from happening. After all, why spend $1,500 for a 1954 RCA color tv, when you could build your own color tv for 30¢! -- I got the article of a guy in New Jersey who built his color tv for 30¢ worth of color cellaphane and left over phonograph parts in his basement!

1951 - the radio program, The Adventures of Sam Spade. Though Ivan was not on the show as an actor, his name was used deliberately as a villain who gets killed as Ivan T.(!!) Sanderson over a valuable string of pearls!

1952 - The Big Game Hunt. Ivan was the introductory host to these re-edited 26 ½ hour syndicated tv show of the Martin & Olsa Johnson wildlife films of the 1930s and before. The Johnson Safari Museum at Chanute, Kansas have in their possession the original 35 mm negatives of this "lost" tv series, which at one point was stored at the Wright-Patterson Air Force base! Why, their records don't indicate why would these negatives have been stored there of all places. I also talk with Lester Becker, who edited this series, he doesn't recall Ivan at all. This is the earliest motion pictures of him that I have determine is in existence at present.

1956 - Spring, had the WOR radio program, The Ivan Sanderson Show. No idea what the program contents were about. I actually came across this by sheer chance when I was looking for something else on the New York Times radio weekly listings.

Ivan was involved with other tv programs, to what extent I am still uncertain, because in a resume copy that I had obtained, his radio/tv media timeline was definitely off -- because I check the New York Times entertaiment section and got conclusive broadcast time proof of when it was occurring.

During the 1940s & 50s, Ivan was a very busy man both as a professional writer and in the early years of the post-war boom in the media entertainment.

With regards to Ivan himself and anyone who wants to do a biography on this fascinating -- and very complex man. More complex than anyone at first glance may realize. But I also began noticing problems also.

What I began to find was disparities on what was generally assumed to be known about him, and what really was going on. And though I have the utmost high esteem for him -- as today what I am is because of his pioneering work when no one else would undertake it that had influence me greatly -- Ivan twisted or alter a lot of personal things, for what reasons I still don't know myself as to why he would do so?

I had obtained from Dr. Michael D. Swords, a good contact who was a former SITU member and the late International Cryptozoological Society, who had access to someone's UFO archives, where he was able to send me copies of some correspondence files on Ivan from the late 1950s -- which reveal some interesting things:

The foremost one was, by 1958, Ivan was living way beyond his financial means, and he had gotten hit with a major financial blow when Garry Moore, host of the same show, had taken leave of the show. Meaning that Ivan's regular weekly livelyhood of making cash showing his animals was completely cut off. Rumors has it that Garry Moore had some type of nervous breakdown or sheer exhaustion, of running a show 5 days a week, live!

Also, from the Sanderson archives in Phil., I had gotten the Sterling E. Lanier correspondence (actually for another matter, but still wanted to get an idea of what these archives might hold).

This file was an eye opener! Turns out that the publisher of Ivan's classic tome, ABSM - Legend comes to life. They were, to put it sheer bluntly !! -- screwing him out of $10,000 in royalities when he was desperately needing it! They were jigging Ivan left and right, and Ivan was having strong correspondence with Lanier as he was Ivan's book agent, as to where is the cash! I need it!!" -- This alone was that everyone (including me), had assumed Ivan made a nice bundle from that classic book! Instead, he was out (counting inflation) equall to $50,000 in today's money. And Lanier also told how, I think it was Dr. William Beebe (not sure, have to check letter) would not shake Ivan's hand as he thought Ivan was a crank!

John Keel was interviewed by STRANGE magazine circa 1990, and he told some facts about Ivan. Basicly, Ivan had a bunch of freeloaders (and these were whose's who of science) who ate him out of house and home and drunk his liquor, never buying anything! He also got stuck with a lot of people who used him when Ivan had connections in the entertainment or scientific world. When Ivan started to slip in those fields and could be no further use, people disappeared on him when he needed help.

I also came to the conclusion on a few dishearting things; and I don't know if you may have reach this conclusion, but possibly too. So I shall say this: by 1960, Ivan was becoming a relict of the early vaudaville days of the golden age of television when New York City was king of this field, only to be replace by Hollywood by the early 1960s

Ivan with his animals acts was a novelity to the general public right after WW II and with the new technological toy of television showing sights that people who were only rich could travel and see. Now it was becoming common-place for the general American public. It's like the actor Ceasar Romero (who played the villain, the joker, on the 1960s camp tv series, BATMAN) when asked to comment on the late Brazilian actress and singer, Carmen Miranda (the dancer with the tuty-fruity hats in those camp classic WW II technicolor 20th-Century Fox musicals) career, "Carmen was a novelty act -- and the novelty wore off."

Perhaps a better description of Ivan's media career is that famous description given by actor Mickey Rooney on an actor's 5-phase career in show's business:
"Whose's Mickey Rooney? Get me Mickey Rooney! Get me a Mickey Rooney type! Get me a young Mickey Rooney! Whose's Mickey Rooney?"

That is what I think had happened to Ivan. His peak was in the early 1950s and slide downward afterwards.

By the late 1950s, Ivan was writing under a pen name as "Terence Roberts" for his only science fiction novel that he published. I don't have a copy of this book, though I do have the book reviews of that time, and apparently no one knew it was that of Ivan Sanderson, the naturalist. Also, Ivan penned a couple of sc-fi stories in FANTASTIC UNIVERSE under a fake name, though used his own name for the fortean articles he wrote for the same magazine.

Though Loren Coleman is credited of getting Ivan to set up a society for the investigation of the unexplained in the early 1960s, I think Ivan jump on it anyway. As a way of starting up a second career in both the writing and media business and to get money rolling in. We both concluded, by the 1960s, he was busted cashwise.

So by going into the fortean field in the 1960s, he made another name for himself in a field that no one wanted to touch. Thereby he kept his name in the news until his death in 1973.

In the summer of 1985, I went to the University of South Carolina at Columbia to examine their newspaper morgue files of the New York World-Telegram-Sun, some 50 million (!!) clippings from those combined newspaper. Among the listings I check for, one was on Ivan, and I got copied that small filed they had on him. And luckly I did, as several years ago, I was checking on the internetas I was trying to locate whatever happened to this unique newspaper collection, I learn that the University shorty afterwards I had seen the files, had destroyed them all!

Recently, I had learn of a second newspaper morgue archives at the University of Texas at Austin of the New York Herald-Tribune which I thought was destroyed years ago. I obtained their newspaper clipping filed on Ivan and a few others, as a test piece to see what they may contain.

That file contained news accounts in that newspaper, mostly of his book reviews, some news clippings, and surprising, a N.Y. World-Telegram one page entertainment page on Ivan and his animals. This clipping was not in the W-T-S 1985 archives, but it was in this Herald-Tribune files.

I also check at my graduate school library on the microfilm of the N.Y. Times & Washington Post and found more references on Ivan's media life in their entertainment pages.

I am convinced that you can find more background on Ivan's in the New York newspapers of that era, and there were more than a half-a-dozen of them from the late 1940s-50s. The N.Y. Daily News; N.Y. Mirror; N.Y. Post; N.Y. Sun; N.Y. World-Tribune; etc. I know that these newspapers are on the newspaper internet site that one can utilized, and if one can set up a search engine, they could find references to Ivan in the media and the contemporary gosship columns of that era. That was where I was finding bits and pieces about Ivan and his wife, such as their antics of feeding hamburger to their pet praying mantis at a restaurant!

I also tried the freedom of information act. I cannot recall if I had gotten a reply from them or not. Considering that it is only now being reveal that files were being kept during the 1950s on a lot of the ufo investigators or contactees, it is possible that someone may have been keeping a file on Ivan himself and his doings.

Ivan investigated the 1952 Baxton County ufo incident; he himself, had a 1958 sighting that he reported. So he would be a prime candidate on someone watch list.

On other claims of Ivan, such as his mother financing a color tv system in 1918 in England, in the midst of WWI. I remember Ivan telling this story one late night on the Barry Farber radio talk show. And Ivan said that he had some written statement (where is it?) from his mother attesting to this. This radio program was from 1971-72? as I was still an undergraduate at that time in college.

This to me, didn't make sense, even at that time. For one thing, such a tv system, as I recall, that Ivan said that to view the color tv, he had some guy pedeling a bicycle contraction with a bunch of color filters on a wheel in front of the tv system.

Considering that there was a war going on at that time, would anyone had wasted/utilized their resources on such a project when the war effort was needed by everyone? And if there was such a system, the goverment would have grab it so fast for their war effort.

If I have to say anything, I think Ivan was really pulling someone's legs on this. Ivan's 1951 CBS color tv system that was used to show his tv series, was this type of tv color system.

I'm thinking, did Ivan use his 1951 involvement as the basis of "stretching" the truth? That, I am afraid is so. Unless there really was some engineer who was in 1918 had such a tv system and got buried for some reason. Hate to sound like a conspiracy person, but there is good enough examples of advance technological items that were either ignore or buried for years and decades.

But until I get more proof, I stick with Ivan pulling one's legs. Also, I got some 1950s radio talk shows with Ivan on them, and one I recall had him talking about V-2 and falls of ice from the sky. With him saying that the V-2 on their way to London would fly through space with ice forming on their outer shell. Actually, the V-2 skin was being heated up to hundreds of degrees while re-entering the atmosphere, and ice could not formed on it. Either he was mis-informed or he really was stretching the truth to the listening audience.

On Ivan's mother, I don't have anything really about her. What you found is most interesting.

But on Ivan father's and the circumstances surrounding the details of his death, this I found some interesting data.

I recall a Barry Farber radio talk show in which Ivan somehow began talking about his father death. And why I remember this was that he was still mad as hell that his father died as he did! Angry that his father was getting gored by the rhino while some S.O.B. was filming his father getting gored and not really doing anything to help him. That years later he was going through some movie film cans for some wildlife series (though not stated, I feel that the series was for the Johnson's, THE BIG GAME HUNT) and picking a can of film at random, it turned out to be the one in which his father was getting gored by the rhino.

Now Ivan repeated this story in an circa 1961 New York Daily News story on him (I got the copy in my files) and he was still mad as hell. But here is the kicker, Ivan had the same opinion and hostility towards this incident when he was filmed for the host segment of the tv series, The Big Game Hunt, in 1952.

And this I know, as I have a copy of that specific segment on video tape that I got as a favor from the Olsa and Martin Johnson Safari Museum. The Safari Museum at that time was putting on DVD's some of the surviving Johnson's wildlife films, but they had not had plans to put this 26 program shows on DVD. They might have at the present, but I haven't check their web site recently.

I am not sure if Olsa Johnson was still alive or not at that time (rumors had it she became an alcoholic towards the end of her life after Martin was killed in the late 1930s in some plane accident I recall offhand). But Ivan put on film those comments about his father.

The Safari museum had a copy of the report of the wildlife safari of the Johnsons that was given to the American Museum of Natural History. But there was somewhat confusion when you read it as to what was really going on when Ivan's father had been gorged and afterwards. And nothing was really explained and defined clearly. There was either more confusion as my university did have a copy of Johnson's wildlife trip books, and this incident was glossed over -- Sanderson's name listed as "Saunders" in the book.

Why this coverup? Was there something more going on than would be acknowledge? This was still a puzzlement to me and I am not certain just what kind of coverup was going up. Afraid to admit they had a death on their expedition that could have affected potential future backers of their films? I agree that it much more complicated and I don't think the Johnson Safari museum really know of what happened on that expedition or if they have a copy of that film scene of the rhino and Ivan's father.

There is something else that I learn about Ivan that is trivial and amusing, but also leaves some questions after nearly 60 years! In 1951 the radio series, The Adventures of Sam Spade, in which Steve Dunne took over the part from actor Howard Duff who left for Hollywood, there was a show in which some pearls of value were stolen by a bunch of crooks, of which one villian was named Ivan T. (!!) Sanderson who got killed while trying to steal the pearls!

In the book by Martin Grams Jr. (2007), The Radio Adventures of Sam Spade (pp. 207-208), Episode #233, The String of Death Caper, broadcasted 2 Feb, 1951. Grams gives a summary of the program, but only refers to one of the villians as Ivan, not giving the complete full name as it was given in the radio program. One reading this, one would not have recognized that this "Ivan" was Ivan T. Sanderson.

This radio program had a lot of in-jokes throughout its six-year run on NBC & CBS channel. As to why Ivan's name would have turned up as a villian, I don't know. However, in this case the Wisconsin Historical Society has the producer of this show archives in their possession. Though I had not as yet check further out in this case, what is interesting to me, though trivial, is why was Ivan's named used in the show. Did the producer or writers of the show knew Ivan or what?

Considering that it was 1951, and Ivan was rather contemporary well known at that time, that could be a reason. But what is important in this case is that records were saved, and just where they are.

I should also add, that we both concluded that Ivan should have been born as a twin! That Ivan himself, was a fortean medical anomaly! That he in the womb, had absorbed his twin and had incorporated his genes to account for his duplicated organs he had possessed.

I believe I have exhausted what I can say at this present time in regards to your letter. I am sending later this week a package with two sets of the 1952 THE BIG GAME HUNT videos and the radio adventures of Sam Spade for your research files. I also tossed in a few videos of myself on the programs I had been on, I had to make a set for another researcher and ran off a second set for you, as to give a background on me. These are extra copies, and don't need to be return.

I have also some 1950s copies from the Wendy Connors audio archives collection of some radio programs Ivan was on, including the 1959 3 hour off-the-cuff remarks he gave at a Robert Gribble ufo group he was visiting that is an earfull! If you need copies I can run off some audio tape copies of them.

I am glad that finally someone is undertaking a very serious and hard look at Ivan's most fascinating and prolific life. Though Ivan was a person who would have been more at in his place as a 19th century explorer collecting animals for the greatest animal dealer Carl Hagenbeck in Germany. He was a holdover from a more simpler age by the time he died in 1973, when science was taken over by the scientific hacks who best attributes is how to write for research grants for their projects, rather than like Ivan who went out and did it on his own. It is only now that things have change like what Ivan had done decades ago. I am talking about todays crypto-hunters who did up the cash themselves, rather then get public taxpayers money to do it, and then go out and get the job done. Perhaps Ivan's time has finally come again.

In any event, let's try and together give Ivan his due in science that he has long been neglected for. If I can be of further help, please inform me and I will try and reply as quickly as it is possible on my part.

Your fellow and former SITU member #1052...

Gary S. Mangiacopra

Richard Grigonis
510A Portsmouth Drive
Lakewood, NJ 08701
732-961-2288
February 26, 2010

Gary S. Mangiacopra
6 Arlmont Street
Milford, CT 06461

Hello Gary,

Captain Robert J. Durant gave me your address.

You and I have never met, but I was a friend of the late Ivan T. Sanderson. I met him when I was 13 years old back in July 1970. He subsequently (August 1970) invited me onto the Barry Farber show to talk about the sea monster picked up by sonar off the coast of Alaska.

As for who I am….

SUMMARY: Richard "Zippy" Grigonis is an internationally-known technology editor and writer. He was Executive Editor of TMC's IP Communications Group of magazines: *Internet Telephony, Unified Communications* and *NGN (Next Generation Networks)*, from 2006 to 2009. Grigonis was the Editor-in-Chief of *VON Magazine* from its founding by Jeff Pulver and Pulvermedia in 2003 to August 2006. The author of five books on computers and telecom (including the *Computer Telephony Encyclopedia* and *Dictionary of IP Communications*), he was the Chief Technical Editor of Harry Newton's *Computer Telephony* magazine (later called *Communications Convergence* after its acquisition by CMP Media) from its first year of operation in 1994 until 2003. His monthly column called "Nitty Gritty" spotlighted new developments in core technologies used in communications (he has continued the column in various publications to the present day). Additionally, he helped design and construct a testing lab used by four CMP publications.

He is also a preeminent figure in the field of embedded bus & board technologies and fault resilient computers relating to telecom; in December of 1998, for example, he supervised the world's first product interoperability test involving the CompactPCI H.110 Computer Telephony Bus. Indeed, it was while at *Computer Telephony* in 1995 that he coined the term "fault-resilient computer" to describe high availability rackmount computers having "four nines" (99.95 to 99.99 percent) uptime then coming into use for computer telephony platforms instead of the more expensive and somewhat underpowered "fault tolerant computers" having at least "five nines" (99.999 percent) uptime.

Grigonis is the former MIS Director of Squadron, Ellenoff, Plesent & Scheinfeld (now part of Hogan & Hartson LLP) a major law firm representing such clients as Rupert Murdoch and his News America Corp.

The winner of several programming awards, in the early 1990s Richard did multimedia programming and consulting for AT&T Bell Laboratories in Holmdel, New Jersey. He was the principal consultant on town24.com (now defunct), the world's first all-Flash Website. He has also designed and implemented complete LAN and business systems for law firms and literary agencies, and during the 1980s worked for KPMG Peat Marwick at their New York headquarters. Richard has published articles in *Forbes, Internet Telephony, Unified Communications*, *NGN*, *VON Magazine*, *Dr. Dobb's Journal*, *TELECONNECT* and *Call Center* magazines. He has also advised foreign governments and corporations on computer telephony, IP Communications and contact center technologies. Cited as a long-time speaker, conference session moderator and editor at telecom and embedded computing shows, he has also ghost-written editorials, blogs, white papers and other materials for various telecom industry leaders and companies.

In the early 1980s he was part of the production staff of the TV show *Sesame Street*.

Grigonis is a graduate of Rowan University in New Jersey.

TRIVIA: Richard's mother was a mathematician who worked on the Manhattan Project. Napoleon is in her family tree.

I'm contacting you because I just signed a contract to finally write a biography of Ivan T. Sanderson. It's a small publisher (Anomalist Books) with no advance, but it's now or never for this project.

The publisher approached me to do this book because of an online tribute to Ivan that I have created on my website, www.RichardGrigonis.com. It's about 50,000 words and has about 80 photographs. There is also a transcript of a 90 minute interview I did with Ivan when I first met him.

I'm in the process of talking to anyone who ever knew him or might have some data on him, and I understand that you've been collecting information on him for some time, with an eye to doing a book of your own.

I've been assisted in my work by former assistants, Richard T. Grybos and Michael R. Freedman. I've also just sent a letter to Sabina W. Sanderson, and I've talked with various other people.

Here's a few things I've discovered:

As for Ivan's first wife, Alma: Ivan kept up the myth of Alma Viola Guillaume de Veil. Even after her death, Ivan gave the "original" spelling as "Alma'a Vioreta Guillaume de Veil" — the "de Veil" part is a clever way of tipping us off that he was lying or "veiling" the name of Alma Viola Williams, "Guillaume" being William in the French language.

Rather than being an African princess from Madagascar, or a "Mayan" or whatever other nonsense Ivan was attempting to promulgate on behalf of Alma, we can pretty such state with a straight face the following:

Her father—John J. Williams, was a mullato born in Louisiana. Both of his parents were from Louisiana. John was 46 years old in the 1920 census (born approx. 1873) He was a barber who earned a wage.

Her mother—Anna Williams, was a mullato born in Missouri; her parents were from Virginia. Anna was 40 years old in 1920 (born approx. 1880). Anna was a dressmaker who worked "OA" on her "Own Account" instead of in a factory.

Alma was 10 years old at the time of the census in 1920 (born September 1909?).

Strangely, Alma was born in Nebraska (possibly Anna's mother had her and then remarried?)

During the 1920s the Williams family lived at 7218 Wentworth Avenue in Chicago.

So how does a black kid from Chicago end up graduating from the University of the Sorbonne and work as a scientist's assistant at the University of Grenoble? We're still working on that one.

John J. Williams doesn't show up in the 1930 census. Perhaps he had left the country?

Supposedly there was some "diplomatic" or "bureaucratic" reason Ivan and Alma had to marry immediately (in Switzerland?) in 18 February 1934, which apparently infuriated his mother, so they married again in England on April 10, 1935. The marriage certificate ("solemnization") is enclosed.

Ivan's Mother

Ivan used to tell two stories that I believe almost certainly came from his mother, since she claimed to have helped finance the work of both Marconi and John Logie Baird. Both of stories appear to be false.

The first is that **Marconi stepped the Atlantic ocean in 1911**, the year of Ivan's birth, by David Sarnoff (!) stepping the signal from Newfoundland to Marconi's yacht the *Electra*, to James McKelvie's yacht the *Surf*, and thence to France. Actually, Marconi said he did it in a single span in 1901.

The other story concerns **John Logie Baird demonstrating a large, projection color TV using a mechanical scanner (Nipkow disk) in 1918.** This is totally preposterous. Baird was just barely able to transmit a monochrome, 30-line, postage stamp-sized image in 1926, and that in itself generated a huge amount of publicity. His color images of 1928 weren't a whole lot better.

I'm beginning to wonder if she really did have any involvement with Marconi or Baird.

Here's what else I have on her that's posed on my website:

Ivan's mother, the former Stella Winifred Woodthorpe Robertson, was born in Shillong, Meghalaya, India in 1882. Her father was Major General David Robertson of Her Majesty's Indian Army (born 1840 in Bengal, India). Her mother was Annie (also listed as Amy) Somers (born 1855 in Shillong, Meghalaya, India). Her older sister (by five years) was Erica Marion Josephine Robertson.

Stella was an international bill broker—somebody who buys and sells promissory notes and bills of exchange—and an early example of a venture capitalist, who claimed to have helped finance the work of both Guglielmo Marconi (April 25, 1874 — July 20, 1937) and Scottish television pioneer John Logie Baird (August 13, 1888 — June 14, 1946).

Arthur Buchanan Sanderson and Stella Winifred Woodthorpe Robertson were married 13 October 1906 (Parish: Holy Trinity, Chelsea. County: London. Borough: Kensington and Chelsea.) Arthur was 25 years old, Stella 24. Arthur is listed as a "wine merchant" instead of a whisky manufacturer.

Arthur Sanderson brought a divorce action against Stella on 12 June 1920, on grounds of desertion. The custody agreement for their only child, Ivan Sanderson, was worked out on May 21, 1921.

Stella was a brilliant, somewhat headstrong and overbearing woman. Ivan would always acquiesce to her wishes. That didn't stop him from describing her in glowing terms...

"My mother was a remarkable woman... half French... who became an orientalist; entirely self taught. She was 'a bill broker'—do you know what that is? It is somewhat like a stock broker, only involves international currencies and all that. Most unusual for a woman, especially in those days. She sat next to Stanley Baldwin, the British Prime Minister once at a dinner in London and he told someone later he wished he knew as much about the economy of Egypt as she did." [Cameron, Gledhill. "As Leader of 'Society for Investigation of Unexplained' He Probes Worldful of Unanswered Questions." *The Evening Times*. (Trenton, New Jersey) 10 July 1968. p. 13.]

No doubt Stella leveraged the prestige of the Sanderson name to enhance her international business dealings. A fabulous black Chinese wall hanging with gold dragons in Ivan's home had originally been given to his mother by the last emperor of China, Puyi. **[Is this true? It sounds like another whopper.]** Ivan would occasionally accompany her on trips, or vice versa (Australia, Tangier, etc.). She apparently traveled quite a bit, probably a mix of business and sightseeing. Strangely, despite her sophisticated international business dealings, on at least one ocean liner document she lists herself as a humble "homemaker" on travel documents, even though her husband had been dead for years and her son was a world adventurer.

Ivan says that she was half French. Actually, Stella's grandparents on her father's side were Nobel Robertson (born 1806 in Ireland) and Elizabeth Robertson (maiden name unknown, but born in 1818 in Dublin, Ireland). This implies that Stella's mother, Annie Somers, had French ancestry, but research has not yet uncovered anyone in that branch of the family.

Stella Sanderson died in 1960.

Ivan's Father

This is what I have on him.

Ivan's father, Arthur Buchanan Sanderson (22 November 1880 — 25 September 1925) , was part of the family that owned the distillery company, William Sanderson & Son Ltd. He was the eldest son of Arthur Sanderson of 25 Learmouth Terrace, Edinburgh, Scotland. Arthur attended the

Rugby School as a boy, then was admitted as a "pensioner" at Cambridge's Clare College on April 21, 1899. For those unfamiliar with the term, at the University of Cambridge there were four classes of students: *fellow commoners* and *noblemen*, *pensioners*, *sizars* and *sub-sizars*, and the more distinguished, elected Scholars "on the foundation" of their college. The majority of Cambridge students were always pensioners, who pay for their own tuition and "commons" (dinners and rooms). Arthur was matriculated into Cambridge in 1899. Matriculation is the formal admission of a student into the University as distinguished from his admission into a college such as Clare. Matriculation occurred in each of the three terms: Lent, Easter and Michaelmas (the latter derives its name from the Feast of St. Michael and All Angels, which falls on 29 September). In Arthur's case, he was matriculated for the Michaelmas term. (Today, Cambridge's Michaelmas Term begins on 1 October and runs for 80 days, ending on 19 December.) Arthur was awarded a B.A. in 1902.

He was in business in Edinburgh as a whisky manufacturer, also a Lieutenant in the Fife and Forfar Yeomanry, 1903 (this was an Armoured Yeomanry Regiment of the British Territorial Army from 1793 to 1956 when it was amalgamated with the Scottish Horse). Arthur also served in World War I (1914-1918) in the 3rd Battalion of the Royal Scots (the Royal Scots, or "The Royal Regiment" existed until 2006, when it amalgamated with the King's Own Scottish Borderers to become the Royal Scots Borderers, 1st Battalion of the newly-formed Royal Regiment of Scotland); then a Lieutenant in the 1st Lovat Scouts. (The Lovat Scouts were formed during the Second Boer War as a Scottish Highland yeomanry regiment of the British Army and is the first known military unit to wear a ghillie suit. In 1916, these scouts formally became the British Army's first sniper unit, then known as sharpshooters. This was a perfect position for Arthur Sanderson, who was literally one of the world's top rifle marksmen.)

Ivan would later write a history, *A Century of Sanderson* (1960) about Arthur Sanderson & Sons, Ltd. founded by another branch of the family, led by (another) Arthur Sanderson (*born* Kennington, Surrey, 13 April 1829; *died*? London, 11 March 1882). The company was (and is) a leading British importer, designer, manufacturer, and marketer of fabrics and wallcoverings.

In a 1961 interview, Ivan explained how a drink that originally only cost a penny a mug became the source of his family's fortune:

"Some of my ancestors were fishermen on the West Coast of Scotland back in the 18th Century," Ivan said. "They'd go out in winter in tiny boats across the Atlantic to fish on the Newfoundland Banks. Big schooners used to come out from England to bring them water and food and to pick up their cod. These fish were then dried and salted and shipped back to be sold to the American colonies."

"But when these fishermen had nothing else to do they made whisky out of barley and burne (brook) water. This water was the color of fine sherry because it was colored by the peat bogs over which it ran.

"This whisky, manufactured only for home consumption, was kept in big vats made of the timbers of old sailing ships which had carried fish. Well, the bacteria of the dead cod had impregnated the wood. It was this, plus the peat water, which gave Scotch its original and distinctive flavor.

"Now, at this time in Scotland, only the poor people drank whisky. The wealthy confined themselves to fine wine and brandies, imported from France.

"So these fishermen, who took plentiful supplies of whisky on their long journeys, eventualy asked themselves: 'Instead of getting our food from the English schooners, why don't we buy it in the colonies?'

"And that's exactly what they did. Often they exchanged their whisky for food and other supplies in New England, whose inhabitants were able to buy the potent stuff for a penny a mug. Of course, eventually Scotch became the drink of the rich.

"My ancestors, incidentally, were the first to bottle whisky and my family once owned the company which made Vat 69. But," Ivan added with a spirited sigh, "not today." [Ben Gross. "Scotch was the Poor Man's Drink." ***New York Sunday News.*** **26 November 1961. pp. 15, 18.]**

The elder Sanderson's farm that he converted into a game preserve was near Naro Moru, in central Kenya, a small market town between Nyeri and Nanyuki through which flows the Naro Moru River. Its main industry is tourism, as a base for hikers ascending Mount Kenya, to its east. As one travel guide says, Naro Moru, "is the most common starting point for trekkers attempting to climb the mountain. Otherwise, Naro Moru is but a village and there's no reason to stop here." Interestingly, the Solio Game Reserve lies near the town, perhaps a remnant of Arthur Sanderson's pioneering game preserve.

The senior Sanderson's death came in what was then called Kenya Colony, Africa, while he was associated with the famous wildlife photographer of the 1920s, Martin Johnson. In 1924, Johnson and his wife Osa began a four-year filming expedition that would ultimately result in the famous 1928 documentary, Simba: The King of the Beasts. In December of 1924 Arthur Sanderson joined the Johnsons as they led a 30-camel safari into the N'Doto Hills to the west of Marasabit, which lasted until January 17, 1925. As for Arthur Sanderson...

He was an excellent shot, experienced in bush craft, and responsible for both running the camp and for providing cover... whenever Martin and Osa approached dangerous game. [Imperato, Pascal James and Imperato, Eleanor M. ***They Married Adventure: The Wandering***

***Lives of Martin and Osa Johnson.* New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press, 1992. p. 128.]**

It was the latter job that ultimately did in Arthur Sanderson. Ivan's version of the story is that in 1924 a rhinoceros chased and killed Arthur Sanderson, while Johnson just kept cranking away at his camera, recording the whole incident. Years later, Ivan got his hands on some of Johnson's films that had not been released to the movie companies or to the public. Running one off at random on his projector, Ivan was horrified to find that this particular reel was the one which showed his father's death.

What actually happened is more complicated (and Ivan once gave an incorrect date for his father's death so that the error has been perpetuated by many authors who have mentioned his father in passing). One of the investors in Johnson's motion picture corporation was the entrepreneural wizard, Percy Norman Furber, an Englishman who had mined mining quicksilver and drilled for oil in Mexico, only to arrive in America in 1918 and started what became the Trans-Lux Corporation. In 1925 his wayward son, Beverly Heckscher Furber, an alcoholic who nevertheless was a crack shot and who had a keen interest in natural history, was hired by Johnson to assist Arthur Sanderson. According to the biography of the Johnsons by Pascal and Eleanor Imperato:

On May 3, 1925, some six months after young Furber's arrival, he and Sanderson unwisely went into some thick brush a quarter of a mile from the lake to track down rhino which Martin and Osa wanted to photograph. They suddenly came onto three of them; one charged and tore into Sanderson's right thigh despite having received two shots from Furber. Martin and Osa, who were three hundred yards away on an anthill, came running to the scene and found that Sanderson was semiconscious and bleeding profusely. Sanderson made a slow but steady recovery and was ambulatory by early June, when Martin and Osa decided to go on a visit to Nairobi. [Imperato 129.]

Although the Imperatos in their biography don't mention it, the Johnsons must have been filming the rhino attack from their position 300 yards from Sanderson and Furber, otherwise there would be no reel of film for Ivan to discover years later. Also note that Arthur Sanderson was not immediately killed by the rhino. After he was "ambulatory" again in early June 1925, he wanted to return to Nairobi for rehabilitative treatment, and resigned his position, which distressed Johnson greatly. The Imperatos quote Ivan as saying that his father Arthur "later died of complications from his wounds." The exact date of Arthur Buchanan Sanderson's death is 25 September 1925, more than four months after his violent encounter with the rhinoceros.

Also note that Arthur doesn't appear to be a "never-do-well" character — that opinion must have come from Ivan's mother. When in the bush, Arthur Sanderson was brilliant and absolutely indispensible to the Johnsons.

The Matter of Ivan's "Godfathers"

Then there's the matter of Ivan's "Godfathers." It would make sense that for "business purposes" anybody famous and/or influential visiting England who was introduced to the Sandersons would be made a "Godfather" to Ivan. Ivan told me of his Japanese Godfather:

RG: You walked a thousand miles?

ITS: Walked it all. And then I went from there to Hong Kong, Hong Kong to Shanghai, Shanghai to Peking, Peking to Aben, Aben back to Shanghai. Then I took a boat over to Japan. My other godfather was Japanese, so I spent some time [six months] with him and his family.

Ivan Sanderson's Japanese godfather was Baron Kishichirō Ōkura (1882 — 1963). (The Japanese place the family name first: Ōkura Kishichirō.) He studied at Trinity College Cambridge from 1903 to 1906, but did not graduate from Cambridge University. He was the eldest son of the great Baron Okura Kihachiro (1837-1928) the peasant entrepreneur who started with a grocery store and built up the *Okura-gumi* and founded the giant Okura *zaibatsu* (family trust), and who at the time of his death controlled 63 firms (hotels, theatres, steamships, shoe factories, breweries, etc.) in China and Japan, not to mention the Okura Shogyo Gakko which in 1949 became Tokyo Keizai University (Tokyo University of Economics). The young Okura, something of a playboy, was the first Japanese racing car driver in history, having competed in the first ever car race held at Brooklands in Surrey, England, on July 6, 1907 (he came in second place). He was instrumental in introducing the automobile to Japan. He was the President of the Imperial Hotel in Tokyo, and the Okura luxury hotel chain still exists. Ōkura Kishichirō is perhaps best known these days as a great patron of the strategic board game of Go (called igo in Japanese), having helped establish the Nihon Ki-in or Japanese Go Association in 1924. Ivan would say of him: "After World War II, he was the only Japanese industrialist who was cleared by the General MacArthur government of war crimes. Baron Okura was allowed to reopen his plants shortly after the war ended." What Ivan didn't say was that the MacArthur government soon dismantled the imposing *zaibatsu* into separate, associated companies.

Ivan's father had graduated Cambridge in 1902, so he wouldn't have met Okura while at Cambridge. Of course, they could have been introduced when Okura was a student.

But then I learned from Rich Grybos that Ivan once claimed (in passing) that the munitions czar and "merchant of death"—Zacharias Basileios Zacharias, later to be known as Sir Basil Zaharoff—was also a "Godfather". This is possible, since he ran Vickers, but he lived in Paris most of the time. Perhaps an exaggeration? How many "Godfathers" did Ivan have?

ITS: I got mixed up in a revolution and had to get out real quick on a Japanese fishing boat. Then I went to Tahiti, Samoa, Hawaii, and then I came to the United States of America.

Ivan appears to have this sequence backward—Japan was his actual departure point for America. Official passenger records indicate that an 18-year-old Ivan Sanderson departed Yokohama, Japan on the ship, *Siberia Maru*, and arrived in San Francisco on 8 June 1929, with his ultimate destination listed as England.

Of course, he may never have visited Tahiti, Samoa and Hawaii in the first place.

As he said later to a reporter in April 1951:

"I had enough money to buy a car," he said, "so I bought a Black Hawk Stutz and drove through 32 states, I sailed back to England with exactly twice the amount of money I had when I landed."

While driving across the United States, he worked at many odd jobs.

Having arrived in the U.S. on June 8, 1929, he left July 1, 1929 from the port of Lewiston, New York, which accesses Lake Ontario.

So Ivan got a sunburn in California (he said to me), then drove through 32 states, and worked on an oil rig in Oklahoma (he claimed to me), all accomplished between June 8, 1929 and July 1, 1929 ??? It's possible (except perhaps for the oil rig story), but would take considerable determination and some planning.

I've also talked with a woman with whom had a "one night stand" in with Ivan in the 1940s, who told me about Ivan's peculiar sexual dysfunction.

So, as you can see, this is going to be quite a book! I can understand if you don't want to share any of your materials because you're working on your own book. But feel free to use anything here.

If you think you may have some tidbits I don't have, then by all means contact me.

Sincerely,

Richard Grigonis

Richard Grigonis

CERTIFIED COPY OF AN ENTRY OF MARRIAGE

GIVEN AT THE GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE

Application Number COL391806

1935. Marriage solemnized at the Register Office in the District of St Pancras in the Metropolitan Borough of St Pancras

Columns:— 1		2	3	4	5	6	7	8
No.	When Married	Name and Surname	Age	Condition	Rank or Profession	Residence at the time of Marriage	Father's Name and Surname	Rank or Profession of Father
156	Tenth April 1935	Ivan Terence Sanderson	24 years	Bachelor	Zoologist	7 Chester Mews N.W.	Arthur Buchanan Sanderson (deceased)	Of Independent Means
		Alma Viola Williams	25 years	Spinster	"	7 Chester Mews N.W.	John Williams	of Independent Means

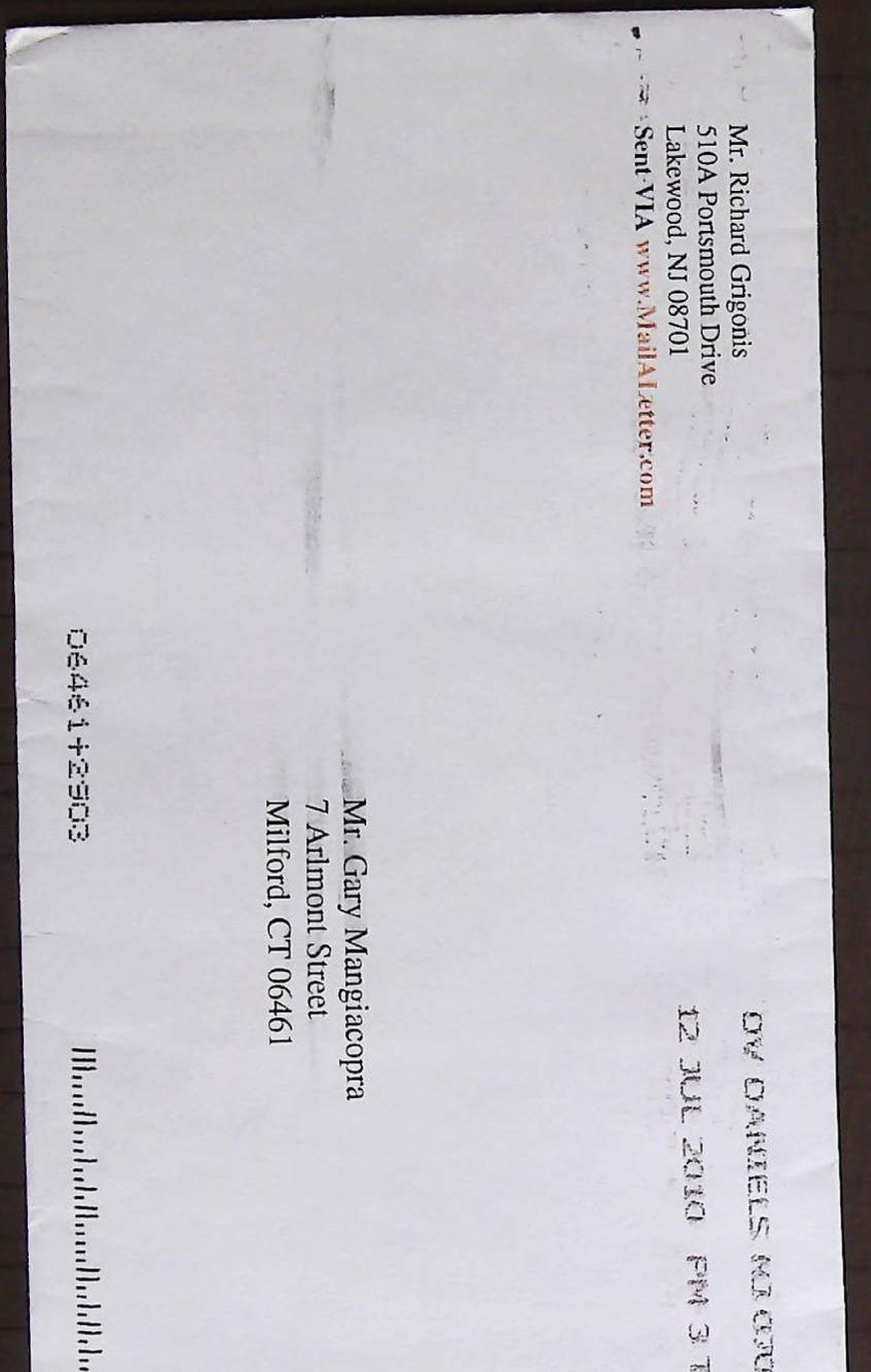
Married in the Register Office ~~according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the~~ by Licence before by me,

This Marriage was solemnized between us, Ivan T. Sanderson, Alma V. Williams

in the Presence of us, Ethel Shepherd, J. Lloyd

[illegible] Registrar

Edw. S. H. T. Whenmouth Deputy Supt Registrar



Mr. Richard Grigonis
510A Portsmouth Drive
Lakewood, NJ 08701
Sent VIA www.MailALetter.com

OW DANIELS NJ 080
12 JUL 2010 PM 3 T

Mr. Gary Mangiacopra
7 Arlmont Street
Milford, CT 06461

06461+2903

Richard Grigonis
510A Portsmouth Drive
Lakewood, NJ 08701
732-961-2288

May 19, 2010

Hello Gary,

Sorry I haven't sent you a letter sooner. I am working through tons of data from the American Philosophical Society, Royal Geographical Society, Heuvelmans correspondence from Switzerland and scanned files from my visit to John Green (Mr. Sasquatch) in Harrison Hot Springs British Columbia earlier this month.

As it turns out, Sterling E. Lanier was Ivan's editor at Chilton (publisher of the Abominable Snowman book), not his agent. Would love to get a quote about Ivan needing money from Chilton….

Ivan's British literary agent was an old Cambridge chum, Innes Rose, who basically took over the John Farquharson & Co. agency. His wife Pauline was also a literary agent for many years.

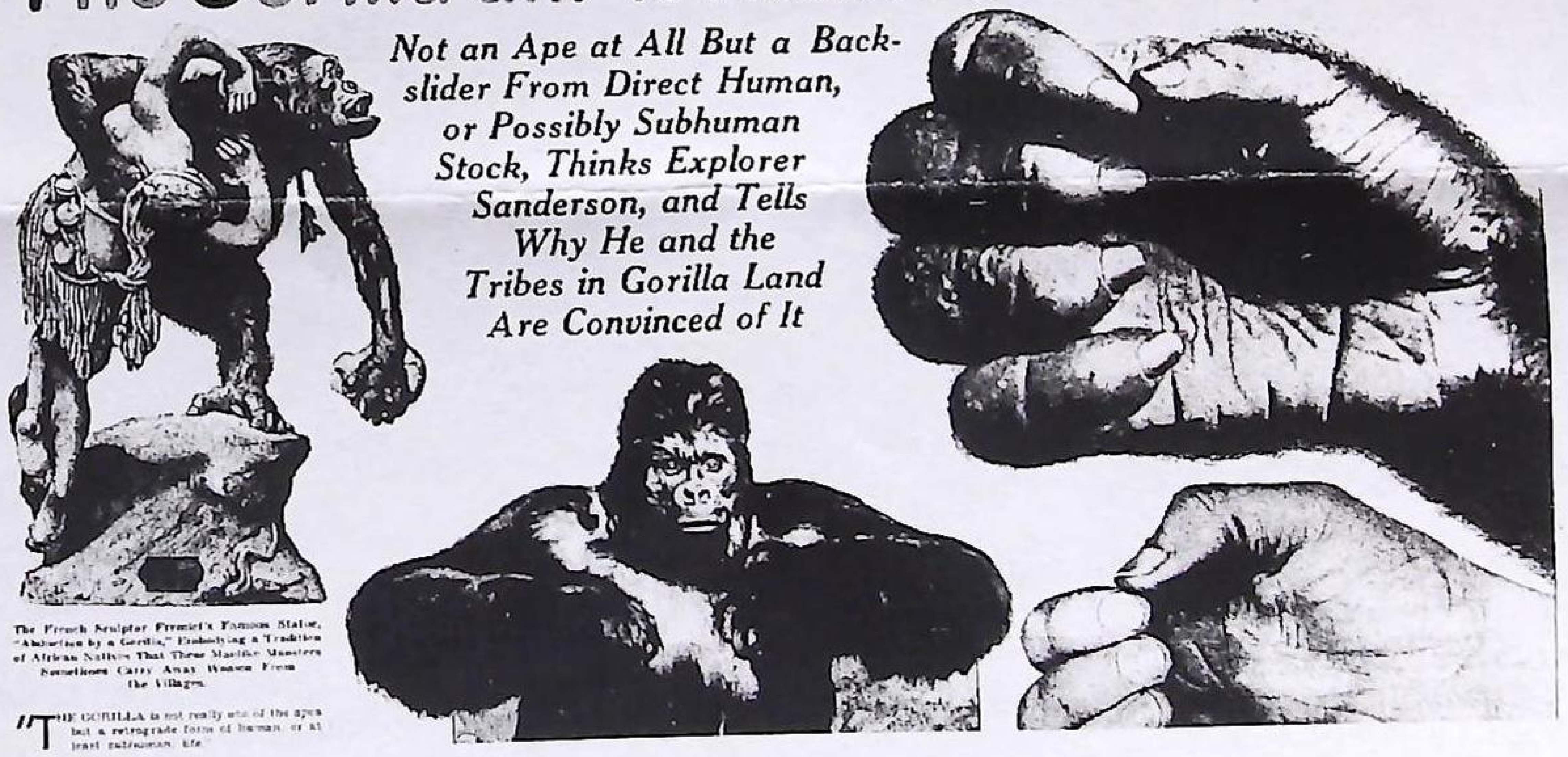
Would love to pin down whether it was William Beebee (or whoever) who refused to shake Ivan's hand.

Here's something amusing….(will ultimately send you more stuff as I finally finish this thing – it looks like it probably won't be ready until the end of June).

Cleveland Plain Dealer, March 27, 1938….(from the American Weekly in Britain).

The Gorilla an Actual Brother of Man?

Not an Ape at All But a Backslider From Direct Human, or Possibly Subhuman Stock, Thinks Explorer Sanderson, and Tells Why He and the Tribes in Gorilla Land Are Convinced of It



The French Sculptor Fremiet's Famous Statue, "Abduction by a Gorilla," Embodying a Tradition of African Natives That These Manlike Monsters Sometimes Carry Away Women From the Villages.

"THE GORILLA is not really one of the apes but a retrograde form of human, or at least subhuman, life."

The French Sculptor Fremiet's Famous Statue, "Abduction by a Gorilla," Embodying a Tradition of African Natives That These Manlike Monsters Sometimes Carry Away Women From the Villages.

"Man-Beef" the Natives of Assumbo in the Gorilla Country Call the Great Brute, Says Explorer Sanderson, and This Stuffed Gorilla at the American Museum of Natural History Shows Extraordinary Human Characteristics.

"THE GORILLA is not really one of the apes but a retrograde form of human, or at least subhuman, life."

This startling opinion, contrary to accepted scientific belief, is set forth by no less an authority that Ivan T. Sanderson, British zoologist, naturalist, Fellow of the Linnean Society and of the Royal Geographic Society. More important than his scientific honors, in this particular question, is the fact that he is also one of those rare individuals, an authority on gorillas, having actually studied them in their native haunts.

If Sanderson's theory survives the attacks it must face, it will mean that there is no "missing link" between modern man in his airplane and the hairy giant of the anthropoids, for they are both to be considered as humans or to have once been subhumans together. The missing link then would be a fossil linking the ancestors of the chimpanzee and other unquestioned apes on one side, with the ancestors of modern man and the gorilla on the other.

At a time so remote that perhaps it will never be known, some urgent reason moved a number of African Samsons to leave the local Philistines on the lowlands where life was comparatively easy and take to the mountain fastnesses.

If stone-age Delilahs were sent after them, they must have failed because, according to the Sanderson theory, these rugged individuals not only grew hairier but bigger and stronger, while the men of the lowlands remained puny and hairless, possibly originating the almost universal ancient belief, exemplified in the Samson story, that hairiness and muscular strength go together.

These mountain Samsons who could have carried away the gates of a city or performed any of the Biblical strong man's feats with one hand, fell behind the plainsmen in communication, weapons and all the other tricks which can only be developed when men live together in communities, even though most of them live as slaves. Nevertheless the muscular hermits of the mountains retained many human characteristics, including the distinctly human invention of tying knots in creepers when they build a sleeping platform in the trees strong enough to hold their 700 pounds of bone and muscle.

The Gorilla Baby Go
Just Like a Human
About the Same
Gestu

In his fascinating African jungle book, "Animal Treasure," published by the Viking Press, New York, Sanderson relates that the idea did not originate with him but came to him from what he considers a better and older authority, the people of Assumbo. The opinion of some African savages, such as the Bokis, may not be worth asking on much of anything, but the Assumbos he had found to be the reliable type of character which made their opinion worthy of respect on any matter with which they were familiar. He writes:

Photograph of a Gorilla Hiding Along the Trail and Watching a File of Travelers; It Is the Gorilla's Curious Habit to Pop Out and Take a Big Bite Out of the Last Man in the Line, Says Explorer Sanderson.

"The people of Assumbo believe gorillas to be another race of men, and not an animal at all. The chimpanzee is, on the other hand, a great monkey to them and only aping man. They are an honest people and not given to imaginative story-telling, and as they probably see more gorillas and know more of their habits than does any other group of human beings in the world, I think their opinions should at least be listened to.

"They affirm that there is no case in their memory of gorillas trying to carry off women, which would be the first thing they would pretend gorillas did if they wished to confirm their statement that these apes are really men. I myself, as a zoologist, naturalist, and an ordinary sane person, am in absolute agreement with the Assumbos. Seeing these creatures in life, listening to their calls and talk and examining them both alive and dead alongside chimpanzees and men, I can only regard them and treat them as a retrograde form of human or at least subhuman life.

"They not only have hands, faces and, to a certain extent, feet like our own, but they use them in exactly the same manner as we do. Their speech contains as many different sounds and types of sounds as any human language. They have constructive ability, shown in building platforms, using sticks and sorting out objects, that is on a par with that of some adult humans.

"Furthermore, they bear strong family likenesses and equally well-marked inter-family differences. The natives of these mountains live alongside the gorillas and know all the families by sight, so that they can tell you, more or less, in which district one will meet certain parties, what they will look like and how many of them there will be.

"Scientists have been at great pains to define a number of races of gorillas. There are undoubtedly two, the mountain and the plains forms, the latter being really distinct and confined to a small area in the East. I have seen in Assumbo a greater variety of color, shape and size among gorillas, within a small area than all that displayed by the so-called sub-races, from all over Africa where the gorilla is met with.

"Individual gorillas vary and show family resemblances just like men. One family may have bright-red crests on their heads, even the very young, another may be almost entirely silvery-gray in color, and others almost jet-black. Of course there are, apart from these, certain colors that go with age, notably gray hair, as among men.

"We spent a great deal of time hunting gorillas with our friend Afa. George once actually got right among a large party, listened to them burping over their food, was bawled at by the old male and saw them beating their chests with their clenched fists.

"I inspected several of their 'nests,' which are really great platforms raised a few feet from the ground and constructed for use during the night's rest when on the move from one feeding ground to another. These were formed by bending saplings inward and placing on top of this springy mattress a mass of leafy branches, torn from the surrounding trees. Among these I counted more than two dozen complete knots, made in the creepers and saplings to hold them down. They were mostly 'grannies,' but there were three real 'reef' knots (one of which I cut out and kept) which had undoubtedly resulted only by chance. The size of some of the branches torn and ripped to make these platforms was quite staggering and bore testimony to the terrific strength of these creatures.

"That the male gorilla will usually attack on sight, or rather, as soon as he knows he has been seen, is an undoubted fact, at least in Assumbo. When he does so, he stands erect and gathers the branches in his arms before him to screen himself. Is there anything but a human that would do this?"

There are other tales suggesting that sometimes it is even worse when the gorilla sees human trespassers but is not seen by them. For instance, when Assumbo natives traverse gorilla territory they avoid as much as possible the usual and convenient method of marching in single file. When, as often happens, this is unavoidable, the most dangerous and unpopular position is not leader of the file but the last man.

This is because the gorillas have a quaint habit of hiding until the last

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at the American
n Characteristics.

The Gorilla Baby Goes Into a Temper Just Like a Human Child and With About the Same Expression and Gestures.

Comparative Photographs of the Right Hands of a Gorilla and a Man—the Resemblance Is Astonishingly Close, Even to the Lines Across the Palms. The Hands of No Other Apes Have Such Similarity.

avelers;
of the

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This is because the gorillas have a quaint habit of hiding until the last man is passing when they reach out and bite a huge mouthful of muscle from his thigh, and vanish. Sanderson was shown two men who had been crippled by these bites but was told that most such victims die, presumably from blood-poisoning.

This strategy of taking just one quick nip from only the last man reveals that the gorilla has as profound an understanding of the Assumbo man as that thoughtful colored man has of his mighty neighbor, thinks Sanderson. If the gorilla should attempt to bite the leader or anyone else except the very last man he would get speared or shot by the man just behind. As it is, the gorilla gets away unscathed and, until someone devises a pair of iron pants for last men to wear, these nip-and-run tactics will continue to have as much moral effect in reducing traffic through gorilla territory as if the powerful creatures risked attacking the whole party.

Coming upon the body of a male specimen weighing between 600 and 700 pounds, that had been shot by a native hunter, the author expresses his feelings as follows:

"I shall never quite forget the emotions that this sight conjured up inside of me. I had always been taught to think of the gorilla as the very essence of savagery and terror, and now there lay this hoary old vegetarian, his immense arms folded over his great pot belly, all the fire gone from his wrinkled, black face, his soft brown eyes wide open beneath their long straight lashes and filled with an infinite sorrow.

"Into his whole demeanor I could not help but read the tragedy of his race, driven from the plains up into the mountains countless centuries ago by more active ape-like creatures—perhaps even our own forebears; chevied hither and thither by the ever-encroaching hoardes of hairless, shouting little men, his young ones snatched by leopards, his feeding grounds restricted by farms and paths and native huntsmen.

"All around him was a changing world, against which he bellowed his defiance to the end, rushing forward to meet the bits of lead blasted at him by his puny rival. At last the Munchis came and the sad old man was lashed to two young trees and borne away by 30 staggering, chanting humans, away from the silence of the mists, away from his last, tangled stronghold; yet not quite the last of the giants and not quite unmourned."

But why did the stout fellows, ancestors of these giants, leave the more favorable plains to their feebler fellow humans or subhumans? One may easily suspect a plausible cause. It probably came about at the dawn of organization in Africa, the beginning of community life. Little organizations of a few families fought others of similar size, carefully keeping away from certain extra-husky Samsons.

But finally family enslaved family until tribes grew so powerful in numbers that no one of these Samsons could stand against them.

The weakness of the rugged individualist is that he always plays a lone hand and gets pulled down, one at a time, by the pack. Finally it became a choice of being exterminated or retreating to the mountain wilderness.

There, as outlaws but still unorganized individualists, they gained in strength and certain kinds of cunning but their mental development, as a whole, came to a stop. Only a very small side branch of the breed managed to survive in the lowland jungles.

Fascinating speculations arise regarding certain similarities of habits among gorillas and Negro natives. Everyone who has seen a gorilla is impressed by his characteristic habit of beating his breast with the same horny knuckles on which he walks when going on all fours. The gorilla has a huge chest, as round and almost as big as a barrel and when he thumps it, the great cavity of the lungs reverberates as if he were beating a drum, producing a sound that can be heard for three miles.

Is it possible that when the gorilla's ancestors took to the mountains, most everyone had a big enough chest to use as a drum but that later the human native's chest shrank until, as today, it became an inefficient noise-maker?

Anyhow, while the gorilla still beats his, the Negro has invented an artificial chest, the African tom-tom drum, which he still thumps with his knuckle, gorilla style, but is able to send his message many times farther than the biggest and mightiest chest-pounder.

Another curious thought arises about a custom still persisting in many African tribes of not burying the bodies of chiefs and other tribal dignitaries but exposing them on platforms high up in trees to be devoured by carnivorous birds.

To just such a platform the gorilla today retires to die of sickness or wounds and there the birds often devour him as they do the smaller body of the chief or witch doctor.

Magic and mysticism often carry on in their rituals customs that were once universal and useful but have been so long abandoned that the tribe itself has forgotten that it ever had such a custom.

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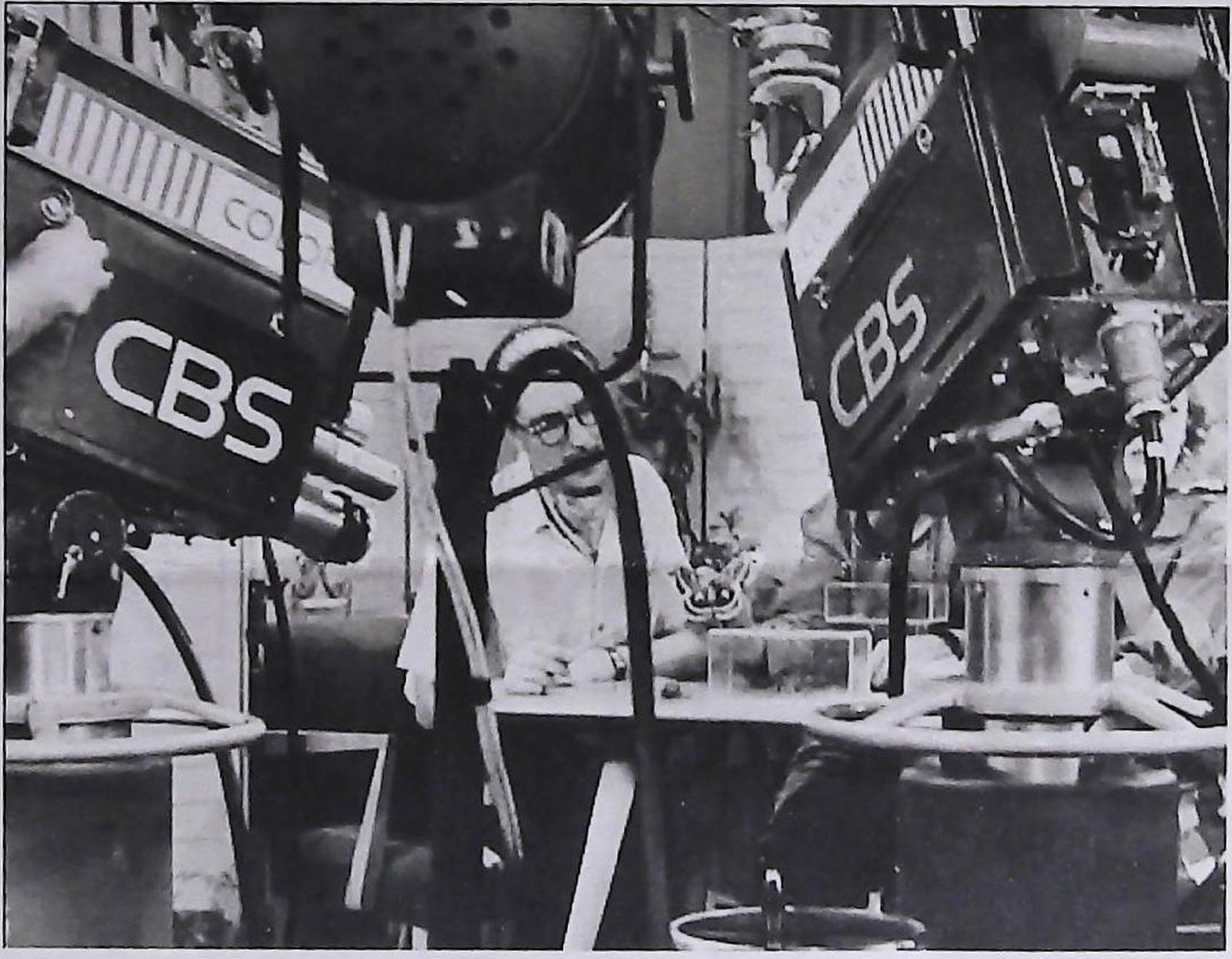
So it seems quite possible that "Dr. Sanderson" is a stand-in for Ivan's father, Arthur Buchanan Sanderson, but no one really knows.

Your Sanderson Sagas has some terrific quotes I can use. I will of course attribute them to your manuscript and Dr. Dwight G. Smith (I hope he won't mind if I use some of this material---?) You will have some considerable mention in the book! I don't think there's another researcher out there (including me) who has devoted as much time and effort to collecting all of the tidbits of Ivan's remarkable life.

Part 1 of the Sanderson Sagas has some great quotes taken from newspapers, such as recounting of the party he attended on September 14, 1937. The footnotes to Part 1 don't appear to have been included, however. Has that file disappeared? (This book has me paranoid about losing stuff, so I make two different backups each night.)

The letter by Vivian Churchvale about the bloopers is interesting in that her real name was Vivian Churchvalek and she was hired to be the assistant to Ivan's "main assistant" from 1948-1949, 19-year old Ruth Loftus.

As for the CBS color TV shows, here's an image from the collection of Eddie Schoenenberger:



Richard Grigonis
510A Portsmouth Drive
Lakewood, NJ 08701
732-961-2288

June 10, 2010

Hello Gary,

Thank you so much for these two boxes of amazing research!

I've tried electronically restoring the photos you sent me, to varying degrees of success.

Yes, I have checked out the "Dr. Sanderson" character in the 1962 film *Hatari*, directed by Howard Hawks. It has a screenplay by Leigh Bracket, based on a story by Harry Kurnitz. Near the beginning of the movie, there is a "horning" of one of the men (Little Wolf, aka The Indian, played by Bruce Cabot) by a rhino as the crew of the lead character, Sean Mercer (played by John Wayne) are attempting to capture a rhino for the zoo trade. The actual "boss" of the crew is Brandy de la Court (played by Michele Girardon), who has inherited the business from her father, after he was killed by a rhino. The crew rushes "The Indian" to Dr. Sanderson (played by Eduard Franz).

As Loren Coleman also told me, Leigh Bracket was a screenwriter of some fame and wrote science fiction novels and stories. Most people people remember her for her role in writing *The Empire Strikes Back*. (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leigh_Brackett). She may have known Ivan T. Sanderson, for she wrote for *Fantastic Story* and other pulps when Sanderson was writing stories for *Fantastic Universe* and other pulps, also where Fortean Eric Frank Russell got his material published.

Comments from forums about the movie::

> Jan Oelofse, the animal supervisor, captured and tamed all the animals in Africa; the elephants, leopard, the cheetahs, and flew with 40 animals aboard a DC6 across Africa, through South America to Hollywood to continue scenes shot in Hollywood ~ BOWHUNR
>
> I spent ten days in Namibia interviewing Jan Oelofse a couple of years ago, and the animal capture and training was handled by a true character, a fellow named Oom Willie de Beer, who had two separate teams. Oelofse was Oom Willie's employee in charge of the training of cats and the baby elephants. Not all of the animal captures on film were done by the actors. Oelofse and others doubled for them in the capture of the monkeys in the tree, for example. Incidentally, Oelofse said that net-over-the-tree segment was filmed in just one take. ~ Bill Quimby

I then did a search on the web and contacted a writer (Bertil Faulk, Sweden) who seemed have known Leigh Brackett and got this reply:

> From: "Zenzat" <zenzat@telia.com>
> To: <richard@richardgrigonis.com>
> Subject: Leigh Brackett

> Date: Sat, 3 Apr 2010 11:29:33 +0200
> X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook Express 6.00.2900.5843
>
> Hi Richard,
>
> Thank you for your interesting e-mail. To begin with, I cannot really call myself a friend of Leigh Brackett. I was since boyhood (9 years old) a staunch fan of her husband Edmond Hamilton and his Captain Future novels. They were serialized, translated into Swedish, in a weekly science fiction magazine. Thirty years later I came to LA in order to interview him and I spent two days at their place in Lancaster, CA. I slept in Leigh Brackett's studio. I met Ivan T. Sanderson once in NYC, introduced to him by Hans Stefan Santesson. He was then married to his first wife. After his death, I interviewed his second wife for an article in the Swedish magazine Sökaren. I had no idea that there was connection between him and Leigh Brackett, but I think that your theory is correct that she used the name Sanderson as a tribute to him. Have your checked with The Jack Williamson Science Fiction Library at Eastern New Mexico University? The collection includes not only Jack Williamson but also all material pertaining to Leigh Brackett and Ed Hamilton, including my home movie from Lancaster and my recorded interviews with the two giants. I read her stories after that visit and got hooked.
>
> Good luck.
> Bertil

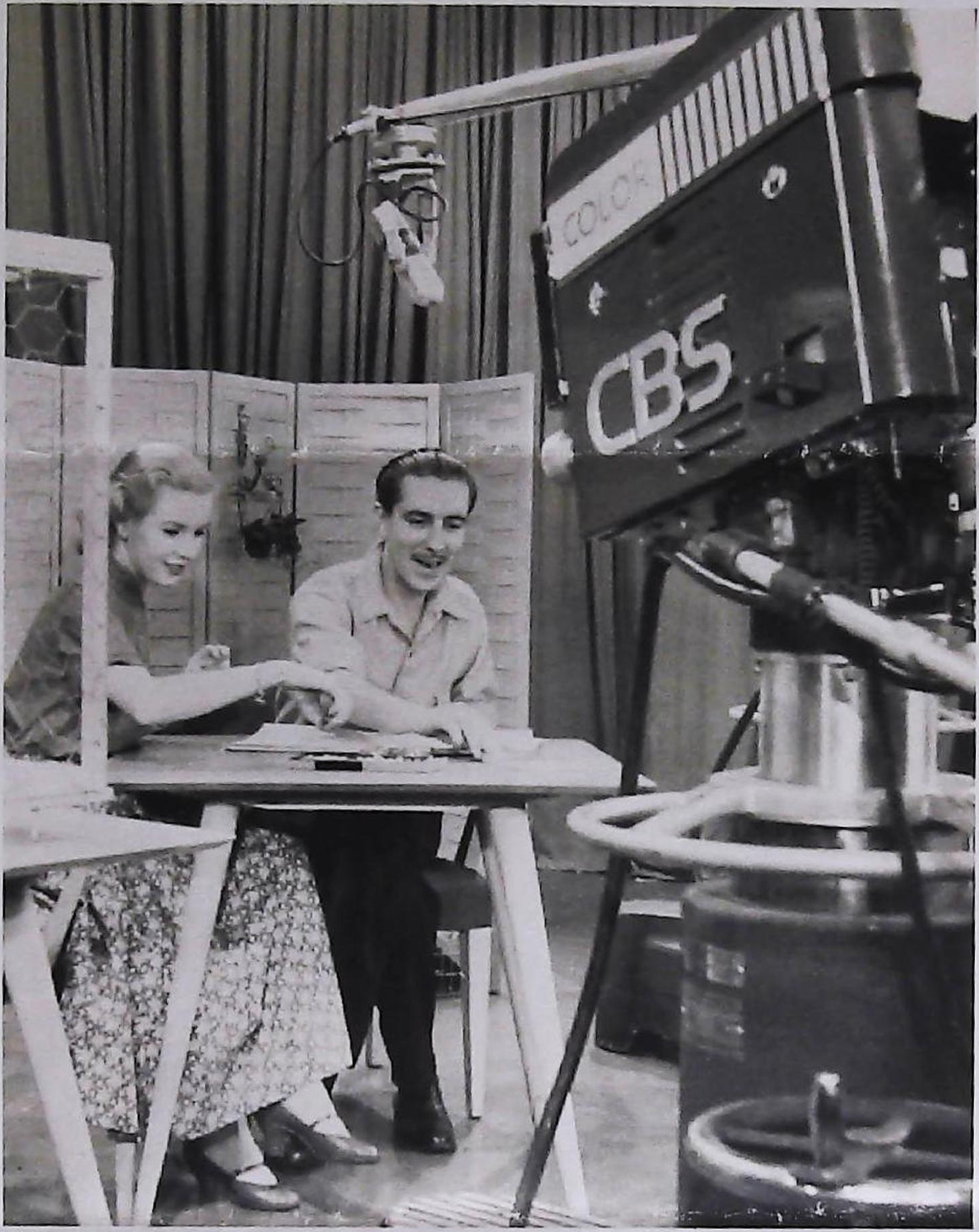
I check out the Jack Williamson Science Fiction Library – they don't appear to have anything on Sanderson.

Next, I tried Jan Oelofse, the animal supervisor for Hatari! Some years ago, Jan Oelofse founded the Okonjati Wildlife Sanctuary in Namibia, and he started up the upscale Mount Etjo Safari Lodge there, somewhere between Windhoek and Etosha, Namibia.

His reply:

> From: "Mount Etjo Safari Lodge" <mount.etjo@iafrica.com.na>
> To: "Richard 'Zippy' Grigonis" <richard@richardgrigonis.com>
> Subject: Re: A question for Jan Oelofse
> Date: Tue, 6 Apr 2010 13:46:14 +0200
> X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook Express 6.00.2900.5843
>
> Dear Mr Grigonis,
>
> I am unfortunately unaware of any connection between the Dr Sanderson-Name used in Hatari and the late Dr Sanderson. Nothing was ever mentioned on set, thus I think that this might have been just a coincidence.
>
> You might be able to find more information in the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences in Hollywood on Hatari.
>
> Best regards
> Jan Oelofse

And here's an image of Ivan and Patty Painter (real name, Patricia Stinnette) from the American Philosophical Society (which cost about $150 to get scanned and to secure the publication rights).



In more mundane matters. It looks I'm going to be doing a short sale on my home. A guy is offering me $50,000 for the condo I paid $130,000 for in Sept. 2007. If the bank approves, I'll have 45 days to leave. I'll probably be moving back (for the third time) to an apartment in Harrison, New Jersey. If the economy tanks again, I'll be living with various friends of mine, but without an official address. Just my laptop, suitcase, website, email addresses, and my cell phone number. Hopefully, it won't come to that, of course.

Once again, thank you for all of this incredible material.

Sincerely,

Richard "Zippy" Grigonis